

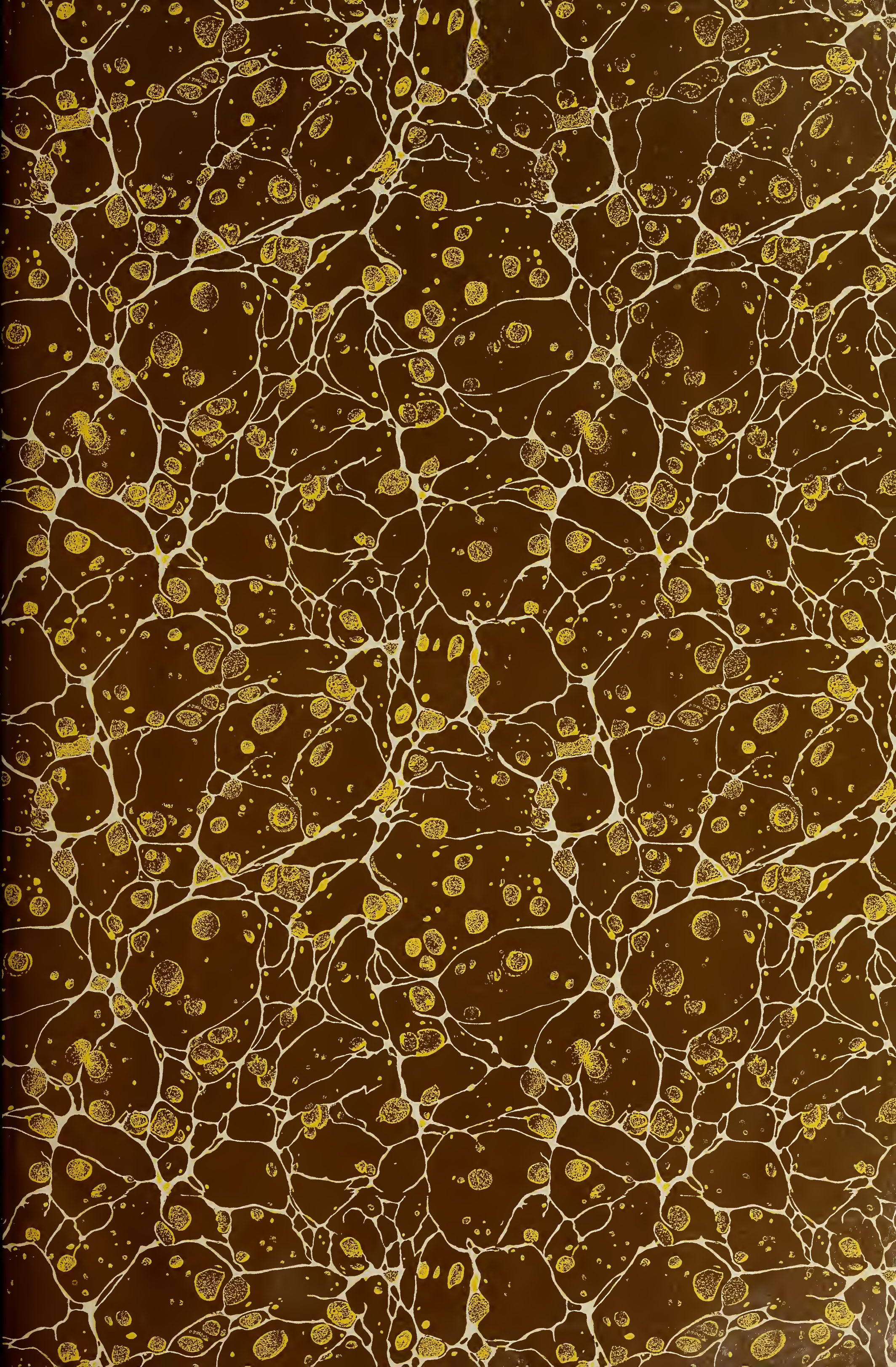
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EASTERN EDITION.

VOL. XV. NO. 1.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., and SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, OCTOBER 1, 1891.

TERMS {50 CENTS A YEAR.
24 NUMBERS.The Circulation of FARM AND FIRESIDE
this issue is**254,500 COPIES.**The Average Circulation for the 24 issues of
the last 12 months, has been**250,679 COPIES EACH ISSUE.**To accommodate advertisers, two editions
are printed. The Eastern edition being
100,200 copies, the Western edition
being 154,300 copies this issue.Farm and Fireside has the Largest Sub-
scription List of any Agricultural
Journal in the World.

Current Comment.

THE report of the Department of Agriculture for 1888 contains the following forcible statements on a subject in which every citizen of the land is either directly or indirectly interested:

"The common roads of the country are the arteries and arteries through which flow the products of the soil and the supplies, which are the life-blood of the nation, to those great ducts of travel and transportation, the railroads of the country. While our railway system is the most perfect in the world, the common roads of the United States have been neglected and are inferior to those of any other civilized country in the world. They are deficient in every necessary qualification that is an attribute to a good road; in direction, in slope, in shape and service, and most of all, in want of repair. These deficiencies have resulted not only from an ignorance of the true principles of road-making, but also from the varied systems of road-building in force in the several states of the Union due to defective legislation. The principle upon which the several states have based much of their road legislation is known as the 'road-tax' system of personal service and commutation, which is unsound as a principle, unjust in its operations, wasteful in its practice and unsatisfactory in its results. It is a relic of feudalism. * * *

"By the improvement of these common roads every branch of our agricultural, commercial and manufacturing industries would be materially benefited. Every article brought to market would be diminished in price; the number of horses necessary as a motive power would be reduced, and by these and other retrenchments millions of dollars would be annually saved to the public. The expense of repairing roads and the wear and tear of vehicles and horses would be essentially diminished, and the thousands of acres of land, the products of which are now wasted in feeding unnecessary animals in order to carry on this character of transportation, would be devoted to the production of food for the inhabitants of the country. In fact, the public and private advantages which would result from effecting this great object in the improvement of our highways are incalculable, not only to the agricultural community as a class, but to the whole population as a nation."

One of the most valuable of recent contributions to highway improvement

literature is "The Gospel of Good Roads; a Letter to the American Farmer." It is a well-written and interesting pamphlet of sixty-five pages, treating of the economic worth of high-class roads; their value to the farmer and the merchant, and the duty of the state in the making and repair of the main wagon-roads. It is published by the League of American Wheelmen for distribution among its 25,000 members. One of the worthy objects of this growing organization is the improvement of the common roads, and with this in view, it is issuing a series of publications on this subject. Agricultural societies, farmers' clubs and institutes can obtain these publications in quantities for distribution, upon very reasonable terms, by applying to the chairman of the L. A. W. national committee on improvement of the highways, Mr. Isaac B. Potter, 278 Pott Building, New York.

It is a well-known fact that the soil is not a food for the plant. Accordingly, if we sow a field with such vegetables, and plow them into the soil at the end of the season, they prove efficient fertilizers. On the other hand, if the formation of these tubercles on the roots has been prevented, the plants do not flourish and the soil is not enriched."

It has been demonstrated, experimentally, that these bacteria are not produced naturally by the plant, but that they enter the roots from the outside, and that the tubercles are formed by them. It is also known that organic matter favors the nutrition of these bacteria.

At first, the practical farmer may not think that the discovery of these micro-organisms is of much value to him, since he has long followed the practice of increasing soil fertility by the use of clover. But it has. It opens up a whole field of inquiry and investigation in fertilizers. It explains why an application of properly prepared manure often gives

repeated experiments have demonstrated beyond doubt that leguminous plants, such as peas and clover, can assimilate free atmospheric nitrogen, and that gramineous plants, such as wheat, do not. Later researches have shown how leguminous plants assimilate free nitrogen of the air. In an article entitled "Chemistry To-day, and its Problems," by Prof. William Crookes, we find the following:

"Much doubt has existed concerning the ultimate source of the combined nitrogen that exists in plants, and forms a necessary item in their food. Some chemists of the highest eminence have maintained that, while plants are capable of absorbing and fixing in their tissues the ammonia and oxides of nitrogen present in the atmosphere, they are utterly incapable of utilizing the free nitrogen that exists in such vast quantities in the air. This question is not merely of deep theoretical interest as relating to the balance of life upon the globe, but it is of supreme importance to man on account of its reference to the fertility of the soil and to our future supply of food. It has been fully demonstrated that, at least in Europe, the yearly amount of combined nitrogen brought down upon an acre of soil by the agency of rain and dew does not make up for the quantity taken away in the various crops.

"Hence, even if we return to the land all the animal and vegetable refuse into which its products are ultimately converted, the fertility of any given plot must in the long run decline, unless, in some manner or other, a portion of the free nitrogen in the atmosphere is absorbed and rendered available for the nutrition of plants. Source after source has been suggested as probable, and finally declared to be inefficient. At last one has been found in a most unlooked-for quarter. Practical agriculturists have long since reached the conclusion that certain green crops, such as peas, beans, lentils and vetches, are not so exhaustive to the soil as wheat, maize, turnips and potatoes. Now, if we examine the rootlets, say, of kidney-beans, we find them studded more or less thickly with small knots, or tubercles, which are the abode of a special kind of bacteria. These bacteria have the power of fixing the free atmospheric nitrogen in such a manner that it may

serve as a food for the plant. Accordingly, if we sow a field with such vegetables, and plow them into the soil at the end of the season, they prove efficient fertilizers. On the other hand, if the formation of these tubercles on the roots has been prevented, the plants do not flourish and the soil is not enriched."

It has been demonstrated, experimentally, that these bacteria are not produced naturally by the plant, but that they enter the roots from the outside, and that the tubercles are formed by them. It is also known that organic matter favors the nutrition of these bacteria.

At first, the practical farmer may not think that the discovery of these micro-organisms is of much value to him, since he has long followed the practice of increasing soil fertility by the use of clover. But it has. It opens up a whole field of inquiry and investigation in fertilizers. It explains why an application of properly prepared manure often gives

out that the air, the greatest source after all, is its cheapest source after all. The important thing to do is to supply the growing crops of clover or peas with these bacteria, if the soil does not already contain them. There is very little land so poor that it cannot be made to produce a good growth of clover or peas by giving it a light but very uniform coat of properly-composted manure which contains these nitrogen-collecting bacteria in abundance, or an application of chemical fertilizers in which they have been cultivated.

OUR annual premium list accompanies this, the initial number of the fifteenth volume of FARM AND FIRESIDE. The list has been thoroughly revised, and our patrons will find that it contains many new articles of merit which have never been offered before. It is the best collection we have ever offered. Great care has been taken in selecting these premiums that our patrons may be well repaid for securing new subscribers to the paper. Now is the time to get them. Another object of this premium list is to give our subscribers the opportunity of buying many useful articles at lowest cash prices. Our large cash purchases direct from the manufacturers enable us to offer our subscribers better bargains than they can get from the ordinary dealers. Get up a club of subscribers and give these premiums a trial.

BEFORE the acorns fell" Germany repealed her prohibitory laws against American pork. The minister of Germany, the secretary of agriculture and the administration deserve the hearty thanks of the American farmers for the final success of their efforts to have this great foreign market opened once more to our pork products. Our pork is now to be admitted when accompanied with official certificates stating that it has been examined in accordance with the provisions of the American federal meat inspection law. As stated before in these columns, that law must be honestly enforced if we are to retain the foreign market.

Denmark has followed the example of Germany, and the other countries of Europe that prohibit our pork products will soon do the same. By repealing their prohibitory laws the beet sugar producing countries of Europe secure the free admission of their beet sugar to this country after the first of next January, which otherwise they could not have under our reciprocity laws. In our opinion, the main reason for the repeal of these prohibitory laws is the fact that a great war is imminent, and several of the countries of Europe need our pork products for army supplies.

In view of the short supply of bread-stuffs in Europe, it is urged that we can now work up a demand there for American corn as a substitute for rye and wheat. But the best way to send corn to Europe is in the form of meat products. However, there never was a better opportunity than the present one to get the people of Europe to use corn in place of rye and low-grade wheat.

The foregoing is the noble declaration of principles of the Ohio Farmers' Alliance. In violation of them, political demagogues have been striving to identify the Alliance with the new People's party. If they should accomplish their purpose the organization in this state would be wrecked. To prevent such a disaster, the officers have issued a circular to the members, wisely warning them that the organization is strictly a non-partisan one, and that to identify it with any party would be to violate its articles of incorporation and render it liable to be disbanded by the authority of the state. Being incorporated as a non-partisan body it dares not become a political party.

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THE Board of Control of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station have decided to locate the station in Wayne county, provided the people of that county ratify the offer made by their commissioners. A special election to decide this is to be held October 6th. The offer is \$85,000, a sum sufficient to purchase four hundred acres of suitable land favorably located, and leave over \$40,000 for the erection of the necessary buildings. The Board of Control made this selection after a very careful investigation, and believe that time will demonstrate the wisdom of their decision. The work of the station will be carried on at its present location for a year longer, at least.

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

ISSUED 1st AND 15th OF EACH MONTH BY
MART, CROWELL & KIRKPATRICK.

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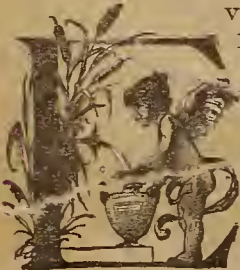
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Our Farm.

PROTECTIVE INOCULATION AGAINST SWINE-
PLAGUE.

REPORT OF THE VETERINARIAN IN THE
NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OHIO
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.



VER since I began in
1878 my investigation
of swine-plague, or
so-called hog-chol-
era, it has been my
endeavor to obtain
practical results—
results that would
enable every intel-
ligent farmer to pre-
vent or to check that disastrous disease.
Of course, first the true cause of the mor-
bid process and its spreading had to be
ascertained.

In this I succeeded quite early. Already
in the fall of 1878 I was able to demon-
strate not only that swine-plague is an
infectious and bacteritic disease, but also
that it is caused by a certain short, rod-
shaped, slightly motile bacterium, from
0.4 to 0.6 m in thickness, and 0.8 to 3 m in
length, which I called *Bacillus suis*. I
also ascertained the fact that an attack
from which the animal recovers, pro-
duces, if not positive, at least relative
immunity or protection against subse-
quent attacks. It is true, and I stated it
in my report, I already then observed
some cases in which one and the same
animal had a second attack, and at least
one case in which a pig had three attacks
of undoubtedly genuine swine-plague.
But in all these cases the second attack
was not fatal, and in most of them even
milder than the first. The animal which
had three attacks also recovered. Its
third attack was the mildest.

These cases just mentioned, however,
were comparatively few in number, and
only exceptions, because in a vast major-
ity of those cases in which a recovery
from the first attack took place, the ani-
mals, after recovery,

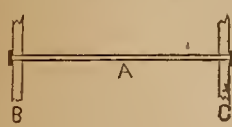


FIG. 3.

possessed perfect
immunity; at least
did not react upon
an inoculation with
the most potent or
malignant material, and did not contract
the disease, if ever so much exposed to a
natural infection.

Want of means and other work pre-
vented a continuation of my researches,
until I became connected with the Ohio
Agricultural Experiment Station at Col-
umbus, when the same were taken up
again. But having also to teach my
classes as professor in the Ohio State Uni-
versity, and, at the same time, having but
very limited means at my disposal, my
researches could not be pursued with as

much vigor as I desired. Indeed, they
often had to suffer from interruptions.
Frequently at the very moment when it
was most needed, either suitable material
or suitable animals to experiment upon
were not available. Thus it became diffi-
cult, or at least it took a good deal of time
to obtain definite results.

During the past year, however, results,
which I must consider definite and con-
clusive, have been obtained, in so far that
I have succeeded in finding a substance
which, if subcutaneously inoculated, will
produce immunity, or, at least, so far has
prevented an infection and afforded perfect
protection, no matter whether the ani-
mals were inoculated with potent materi-
als or exposed in any conceivable way to
a natural infection.

Until recently the effect of the protec-
tive inoculation could be tested only on a
few experimental animals—I had only two
pigs at my disposal—but within the last
month or two an opportunity was offered
through the kindness of Mr. O. Harbage, at
West Jefferson, Madison county, Ohio, to
test it on a larger scale. This testing will
be continued for some time wherever an
opportunity is offered. If the protective
inoculation proves in every case to be
effective in producing immunity against
a natural infection, as I have no doubt it
will, the material used will be prepared in
sufficient quantities and be given at cost-
price and with proper instructions how
to use it, to a sufficient number of respon-
sible veterinarians, if they apply for it
and agree to certain conditions necessary
as a safeguard against quackery and over-
charging.

To exclude any misunderstanding, I
will here state that neither I nor the Ohio
Agricultural Experiment Station intend
to make any money out of it; but that I
desire to retain the preparation of the ma-
terial under my control, at least for some
time, simply to prevent unscrupulous and
irresponsible persons from imposing upon
and defrauding the farmer. It will prob-
ably be yet a couple of months until the
experiments, made at present on a larger
scale, are completed, and until material
will be prepared in sufficient quantities to
supply outside parties, and then a fuller
report in shape of a bulletin may be looked
for.

Whether or not my material for protec-
tive inoculation is in any way similar or
identical to that of Dr. Billings, used by
him successfully for a year or more, I do
not know, because I am not acquainted
with the composition of his material. I
do know, however, that the micro-orga-
nisms, the bacilli, considered by Dr. Bill-
ings and by myself as the cause of morbid
process of swine-plague and its propaga-
tion, are identical. H. J. DETMERS.

WORKING PLAN FOR A CORN-CRIB.

A corn-crib is so simple a structure that
it hardly ever seems necessary to call in a
regular mechanic to build one; yet most
of the principles of building come into
use, and many clumsy, disproportioned
jobs are the result of amateur effort.

Fig. 1 shows a cross section of a small
one I am building, calculated to hold about
two hundred bushels of ears of corn. The
cross dimensions are large enough for the
perfect curing of the corn, and more room
must be obtained by lengthening the
structure. It is forty inches wide at the
floor and sixty inches at the plate, and
twelve feet long, with half-pitch roof.
This means that the two sides of the roof
form a right angle at the peak. It rests upon
six nine-inch, flanged sewer-pipes two feet
three inches high, set upon flat stones
resting upon a cobblestone foundation
one foot deep. Considerable care is taken
to give the sewer-pipe a firm, level bear-
ing, as the weight when filled is over
eight thousand pounds. To relieve the
middle supports somewhat the corner
pipes are set in from the end, so as to be
only ten feet apart from center to center.
The flat stones are made to lie firm just
above the surface of the ground, and a
shovelful of good cement-mortar is put
down inside each pipe to make a uniform
bearing of the bottom of the pipes. A
very good way is to make the foundation
of small stones and cement, dispensing
with the flat stones entirely. In this case
the foundation should be finished some
time before the crib is used, and also be-
fore freezing weather.

In case the crib is exposed on the broad
side to high winds, it is best to anchor it

at each corner with iron rods. In this
case holes sixteen inches in diameter and
thirty inches deep should be dug for each
corner support, making them a trifle
larger at the bottom. Then three quarter
inch iron rods, long enough to reach from
the top of the sill to the bottom of the
hole, should be furnished with a good
head, a large washer and a burr. The bolt
is to be placed in the bottom of the hole,
head downward, and the hole filled with
stones and cement. In this case the pipe
is set upon the concrete. Care should be
taken to have the rod near the center of
the pipe. After the pipes are in place, ad-
just the sill carefully over them upon the
ends of the bolts, hit the sill a smart rap
with a hammer, and bore holes through
it where the scars are made. Then fasten
it down with washer and nut, and cut a
place in the under side of floor to receive
the projecting iron. Bolt the outside
floor plank to the sills with light carriage
bolts, and toe-nail the upright firmly to
the floor. In a twelve or sixteen foot crib
the end boarding forms a sufficient brace
to keep the crib upright (longer cribs
should have divisions). In the drawing,
Fig. 1, F F are sewer-pipe supports as in-
sulators. (In case sewer-pipe is not easily
obtained, posts may be set in the ground
and smoothly covered with sheet-iron.)
E is plank two and one half inches thick
and ten inches wide. D is plank floor two
inches thick; A B are studs four by two,

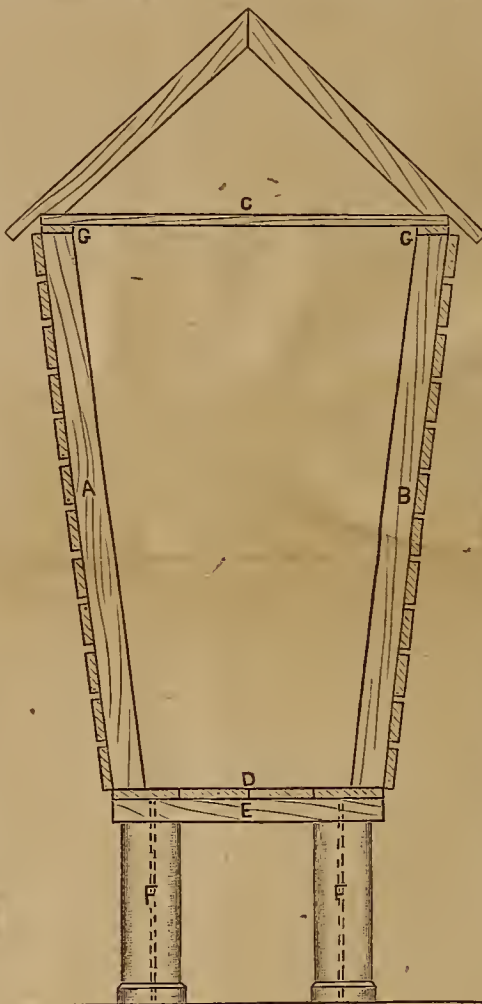


FIG. 1.

and eighty-five inches long; C is cross-tie
in middle of crib, one by three, and sixty
inches long; G G are plates one by four.
The studs are four feet apart, and the raf-
ters, two by four, are two feet apart.

Fig. 2 shows how to lay out the frame.
The parallelogram, A C B, is the floor of
the crib. After it is spiked down and the
ends sawed square, strike a chalk line, A
H, along the center of the floor and an-
other, D, square across and eighty-four
inches (seven feet) from the end, A; along
this cross-mark lightly spike the cross-tie,
C, Fig. 1, which is sixty inches long and
will project ten inches either side. Then
lay the pieces for studs from the corner at
the end to the end of D, and saw off the
ends along the line, A and D I; F G rep-
resent the studs. For the rafters mark a
point, E, on the line, A H, thirty inches
from D. The line E I will represent the up-
per edge of the rafter, but in sawing it the
scantling must be laid two inches higher
up to allow for the projecting end that
forms the eaves, as will be seen in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 shows a simple device for keeping
a long crib from spreading. A is a three
eighth iron rod with a head on each end.
It is just as long as the outside width of
the crib, and is simply dropped into a lit-
tle notch in two boards. When the crib
is partly emptied and the rod is in the
way, it is taken out and laid up overhead,
to be used when the crib is filled again.

The capacity is figured on the basis of
two cubic feet of space for each heaping
bushel of ears. L. B. PIERCE.

COMMENTS ON CURRENT LITERATURE.

BY JOSEPH (T. GREINER.)

GROWING SHOW ONIONS IN ENGLAND.—A
few weeks ago I saw in one of the English
horticultural papers (*Gardener's Chronicle*,
I believe), notice and review of a little on-
ion book, written by J. A. Taplin, a prac-
tical grower, and published by Houlston &
Sons, Loudon. It always interests me to
keep track of the doings of the people in
the old world, so far as horticulture is
concerned; and being particularly anx-
ious to get all the information obtainable
on "How to Grow Onions," I at once sent
for the book. But, oh my! How fussy
these old country gardeners are! The di-
rections given in the ten small pages of
text of how to grow large show onions of
the true "White Spanish onion" may do
for English gardeners, who double-dig or
trench their gardens two feet deep, and
are willing to put on "well-rotted cow
dung six inches deep all over the bed, and
dig it in so the soil will cover the manure
three or four inches deep," but it will not
answer for practical Americans, who raise
onions not only for show but for sale as
well. To make "small beds, say two yards
wide and eight yards long," with board
edges, etc., is out of place in the garden of
a practical gardener in this country. We
can have just as good success by keeping
our gardens in one even plat, by simply
digging it with the plow six or seven
inches deep—or if the soil is very loose,
even with a deep-cutting harrow, without
plow—instead of trenching it two feet
deep with the spade. What we want is a
good ration of old manure—not an absurd-
ity of a six-inch layer—worked into the
soil in a thorough manner with plow and
harrow. Then we want as long rows as
the size of garden admits, all straight and
nice, and everything done in a systematic
and economical way. Life is too short
and labor too expensive for the
fussy ways of the English garden-
ers. Mr. Taplin raises show onions to
reach one and a half pounds in weight—
to him apparently a wonderful achieve-
ment. We can get such and larger spec-
imens in our field crops. I should not
wonder if I could find specimens of that
size in my own patch, and we might tell
some pretty big stories of five or six
pound bulbs grown in California and per-
haps other places of the United States.

What we are after is a combination em-
bracing size and attractiveness of the
specimen bulbs, large yields and lowest
possible cost of production. We cannot
make any concessions in this, or yield in
a single one of these points. Practical
results, especially in money, must always
be our first aim. In this sense I accept
the author's concluding words or motto:
"Nil sine labore" (nothing without labor);
for we certainly can reach our standard of
excellence without the kind of labor that
this English gardener seems to consider
necessary. On the other hand I will con-
fess that my new system of onion grow-
ing owes its existence to suggestions found
in an English paper about the way of
growing bulbs for exhibition.

Mr. Taplin grows the "Banbury White
Spanish" onion. I would like to know
whether this has been introduced in
America, and if so, under what name?
Just as likely as not it is our "Prizetaker,"
or some other new introduction. Will
make some further inquiry. I will state,
by the way, that the Prizetaker is yet the
leader in size and productiveness. Bur-
pee's White Victoria comes out a close sec-
ond, and if white onions should continue
to bring a higher price than others, as
they have for the past few years, the White
Victoria may come out ahead so far as
money returns are concerned.

FRUIT NOTES.—To Prof. Budd, of the
Iowa Agricultural College, the North-
west is indebted for his persistent efforts
in the direction of the discovery of hard-
ier fruits suited to that locality with its
severe winters. In a recent bulletin we
find lists and descriptions of cherries,
plums and other fruits, both native and
imported from east Europe, Asia, China,
etc., that seem to be well suited to the cli-
mate of Iowa. The peaches from north-
west China and north-central Asia are
reported to have fruited on the college
grounds and at many other points, and
proven much hardier than any of the va-
rieties hitherto tried in the West. The
fruit is medium in size, not differing
much from our ordinary commercial sorts
in quality, and with smaller, rounder and

less wrinkled pit. Next year a few hundred of the best of these sorts will be ready for distribution.

The Russian mulberries have not met Prof. Budd's expectations, the fruit of selected varieties imported from Orel having so far proven too small.

During the past eight years experiments have been made with twelve varieties of dwarf juneberry. All of them have proven heavy bearers of fruit, fully as good in quality as the swamp huckleberry. Most satisfactory in bearing were Osage, Greeue County Alpina, and a variety imported from Moscow. These also give the largest and best fruit. The station is now sending them out for trial. A plant of the Moscow has been under my observation for several years. I am quite enthusiastic over the juneberry, and believe it will be a most valuable addition to our list of fruits for market and home use. I like its mild, unobtrusive flavor, its want of acidity, which, right at the end of the strawberry season, seems to be particularly gratifying, and the only difficulty is to get the plants. I hope Prof. Budd will tell us how to propagate the plant in a simple and rapid way. When planted early, the birds, which are extremely fond of the fruit, will take the berries as they ripen, unless covered. When planted by the acre or half acre, however, Prof. Budd says the crop does not appear to be materially lessened by the birds.

Some valuable hints are given on plum growing. Where possible, select a north exposure with rich soil. If shelter is given, it be on the east side, as protection from east storms during the blooming period appears to be very desirable. Best results have been reached in Iowa (and other states similarly situated as well) with rather thick planting, say twelve by fourteen feet, and the alternating of varieties in the rows with a view to more perfect fertilization of the blossoms. With some varieties this mixing of sorts is absolutely essential, and most likely it is an advantage in all cases.

The need of very low tops is quite as apparent as with the cherry. No variety of cherry or plum has yet been found that will prove long-lived and fruitful in Iowa with a high, exposed stem. If it does not develop the fatal "gumming" on the south side, the main growth of wood of stem and top will soon be on the north side.

CONSTRUCTION OF SILOS.—The Wisconsin Experiment Station gives a heap of valuable information about the construction of silos, and some fine illustrations, in Bulletin No. 28. Much has been said *pro* and *con* on the silo system, but it seems the silo has come to stay. People who contemplate putting up such structures (and no large stockman of any pretensions can do without them nowadays) should apply to the station at Madison, Wisconsin, for a copy.

SELECTING SEED-CORN.

SOME OF THE MANY PLANS SUGGESTED.

Few things require greater care than a proper selection of seed-corn, and few things are more generally neglected. Corn will rapidly deteriorate unless care is taken to keep it up to a certain standard of excellence. The selection of seed-corn should be a matter of careful preparation from the starting of the crop in the spring. One very practical plan is this:

Set aside a seed-patch to begin with. Prepare it thoroughly and manure it liberally. If you have not selected your seed the year before while still on the stalk, you will have to depend either upon crib selection or bought seed. If you choose to do the former, select ears of good shape, and as near one size from butt to point as possible. An ear with a well-rounded apex instead of a tapering, barren point is preferable. The size of the stem or foot-stalk should also be taken into consideration. A small foot-stalk should always be chosen, as it is so much easier to snap off ears with small stems than thick ones at gathering time. The husking or "shucking" is so much more easily accomplished, too, when the foot-stalks are small and brittle. Your selection should be made while husking. Have a box, or barrel to throw your choice ears into until they are wanted at planting time. This selection can be made leisurely, and should you select a larger quantity than you find you will need, re-select when you go to shell it to plant, taking the very

best ears for your seed-patch and the others for the general crop.

An entire change of seed may occasionally be advisable when a very severe drouth or other calamity overtakes a locality. When this is necessary, it is generally advisable to procure seed from a latitude north of where you live, but not too far north—if possible, not more than one or two degrees. If you can possibly avoid doing so, do not risk your entire crop with new seed from a distance.

It is important to keep seed-corn perfectly dry, and to keep it from an exposure to intense cold, though if it is kept perfectly dry it will withstand a very low temperature, while a freeze would destroy its power to germinate if the kernels are damp.

Where a separate seed-patch is grown, it should not be nearer than half a mile of any other corn if possible. Farther away would be better, as a great deal of hybridizing is done by bees as well as by the summer breezes. It is important also to go over the patch before the silks appear and cut off the tassels of all unpromising and dwarfish stalks, before they have a chance to fertilize any ears.

Some farmers shell off the tip and butt for an inch or two and save only the grains between these points to plant.

A Kentucky farmer thus describes his ideal of an ear of seed-corn:

"It must be of good size, deep, plump, sound grain; not too flinty, and with not less than fourteen rows of grain; but I prefer from sixteen to eighteen. The cob

should be small and the grains in straight rows and firm on the cob, and filled out perfectly at both ends of the cob. The ear should be but little larger at the butt end than the other."

This same farmer says further:

"I select my corn according to this standard, and lay the ears on a tight floor over my cook-stove, where they remain

undisturbed until February, when the corn is shelled for planting. At the time of shelling, it all undergoes another selection, often discarding from one fourth to one third. Nearly ninety-nine per cent of the grains thus saved will not only germinate, but the young plants will grow with a vigor far greater than seed taken right from the crib. If seed-corn is thoroughly dried before freezing weather comes, it will always germinate with vigor."

This farmer's plan of storing his seed-corn over the cook-stove would not do in many portions of the South, as in such a warm place the weevils would destroy every grain, unless some preventive was applied to destroy the eggs. Bisulphide of carbon would do this effectually, but it is a very inflammable liquid and should not be used within two hundred feet of any fire. Not only seed-corn but the entire crop of corn can be profitably treated with this fluid in order to kill the eggs of the weevil. Those ears for seed could be put into a good, tight box, sprinkled with the fluid, nailed up securely and left in the barn. It is seldom if ever cold enough in the South for the germs to be damaged by freezing if the corn is perfectly dry.

In selecting seed-corn, bear these general facts in mind: Very large varieties mature late, and very early-maturing varieties are small-eared. Remarkably small-cobbed varieties do not produce large crops. Very large cobs require more rain and are more apt to fail on account of drouth. As a rule, medium-sized ears are to be preferred. White corn is best for bread, but yellow corn contains more oil and is better for stock. The flint varieties contain more oil and gluten than the soft kinds, which have more starch. Yellow corn generally matures from ten days to

two weeks earlier than white—an important item where drouths are common. The flint varieties resist the ravages of weevils better than the soft kinds. Stalks carrying ears nearest the ground, if otherwise right, are to be preferred for seed. By careful and persistent selection the habit of two ears to the stock can be established and kept up. "Select the top ear for seed," is the rule of some old farmers, though there is perhaps no good reason for it.

Some farmers hold that stalks bearing one ear only are to be preferred to those with two. They claim that two ears on one stalk seldom yield as much as one large ear. Hence, as it is easier to handle one large than two small ears, it is best to discourage the two-ear habit.

DICK NAYLOR.

HAVING SOMETHING TO SELL.

One sure and certain remedy for hard times is in always having something to sell, and this something, whatever it may be, of such quality as to readily command a fair price. It is a fact worthy of serious consideration that the most persistent croakers about hard times are those who lack in industry, good management, good breeding, and in many cases, sound integrity. They make no special effort to obtain the best results, make few intelligent experiments, take no "stock" in the experiments of others, no difference how favorable the results, but continue in the old ruts to satisfy their vanity. It is well to be on the watch when purchasing of such a person, for the largest apples are sure to be on top and the best grain used as a sample. Because merchants deal in inferior goods is no excuse for farmers doing the same.

While using care in marketing, it is also well to provide a variety. It is true, special farming has many advocates, and many good advantages can be presented in its behalf, but the most successful advocates of special farming are those who enjoy special markets for the articles they produce. As a rule, those who are not so situated as to avail themselves of special marketing advantages will find it to their advantage to engage in general farming, thus being enabled to meet a demand in any line of their production.

By general farming is meant not only the production of the various grains and vegetables, but in the raising of several kinds of stock and in the culture of various kinds of fruits and berries. The general farmer will thus have at any season of the year some article of his production that may be placed upon the market. Having an income during each month in the year, he is ever ready to meet his obligations and can govern himself accordingly. The old-time cotton planter was a specialist. All his lands were devoted to the culture of this useful plant, the fibrous productions of which found a ready purchase at a fair price. The income was large, but coming in a bulk, money appeared plentiful to the planter, and was freely spent, and quite frequently the supply was exhausted and a credit system adopted long before another harvest would bring a fresh supply of money.

In personal experience it has been found very satisfactory to begin the year by having occasionally a horse to place on the spring market. Later on, a variety of plants for the accommodation of neighbors is placed on the market. Next in order is the crop of wool, just in season to pay the June taxes. Then follows a variety of fruits, vegetables and berries, some of which find ready sale at fair prices. The wheat crop, which on a small farm does not look large, cuts no small figure in making the accounts show up on the right side of the ledger. Next follows a market for a few stock sheep, at a good time to meet the December taxes; and finally, a few fattened hogs are ready for market in time to make a few purchases for Christmas.

But this is not all, for the good housewife has been busy all the while in the production of gilt-edged butter, and the industrious hens have prepared many eggs for the grocery counters, and numerous flocks of yellow and white legged chickens, which will escape the visits of the preacher, will grace the table of some of the city cousins. By this means many of the household expenses are made and the improvement of the home.

Farm life is full of toil, but yet there

are times when a reasonable share of enjoyment may be obtained, and it is the duty of the farmer to seek out such opportunities for himself and his family. Do not permit yourself to think you are too old to seek recreation and occasionally join in the sports and pastimes of your children; but on this topic we hope to write at another time.

JOHN L. SHAWVER.

THE SHEEP BASIS OF AMERICA.

The English sheep are naturally best adapted to the damp climate and juicy turnips, and the shade-cured hay of England; the Merino to the hot, dry climate and sun-dried hay of America.

No one disputes the remarkable precocity of the English breeds. A Hampshire-down lamb, on its native grass near Salisbury, has increased eight tenths of a pound daily for a good many days together. But the breeding of early market lambs is an exceptional, extravagant and necessarily suicidal industry. Only one man in a thousand can afford to eat spring lamb. The vast majority of mankind who eat mutton at all must be content with mature flesh; and for nearly half the year mutton cannot be made more profitable in the large way (body and fleece taken together) from English breeds than from Merinos.

We want the English breeds near our cities to furnish spring lambs and long, combing wool, and root-fed or grass mutton; but the Merino will never cease to supply most Americans with their corn and hay fed mutton. The assertion that first-class chops and roasts cannot be cut from any but an English carcass is old and worn out, and, moreover, wholly unwarranted. There is only one genuine mutton sheep worth considering, and that is the Southdown, whose wool is comparatively fine. The coarser the fiber of the fleece, the coarser the grain of the mutton. The heavy, loose-wooled Cotswold and Shropshire produce mutton, as Lord Summerville says, "fit for such markets as supply shipping and collieries"—ham-fat and thick on the rib.

The native American Merino, with its fine-grained flesh, when it has been properly fed and butchered, yields chop, boil or roast second only to Southdown, if, indeed, it is at all inferior. The superiority of the Southdown, if it has any, consists less in the sweetness and tenderness of the flesh than in the thickness of the hams and the "marbling" of the distribution of fat among the lean.

The idea that the wool gives taste to the flesh, either by its growth before butchering or by its touch in butchering, or after, is a very old one, but it is erroneous. The flesh of the sheep partakes of the flavor of its feed. More than does that of the steer, the hog; and the milk still more, the lamb. But all the apparatus of glands and tissues for the manufacture of wool is situated in the skin, and all its deposits are made there without affecting the flesh.

The disagreeable "sheepy" flavor is imparted to meat by age, by bad feeding (or no feeding at all), and by delay in the removal of the viscera. Let a sheep be properly managed from birth to butchering, and the entrails be taken out with neatness and dispatch, and the carcass may be wrapped in the skin without detriment, barring the uncleanness. From the enormous preponderance of the breed, the much-decried "Merino taste" is the scapegoat for all the bad feeding and worse butchering of the country. A sheep may yield the best flesh of all the domesticated animals or fowls—or the worst.

A cry comes up from the territories and from Texas that they must have a larger carcass—"more mutton and more wool on fewer legs." These men do not correctly perceive what is wrong with their Merinos. It is not the size they lack so much as the quality. The sheep of Texas "kill red," as the butchers say. Then they "cook red;" they will not brown in the oven; they are the despair of the French chef. The sheep that "rustles" is muscular. He is gamey, though not necessarily "sheepy." He is never fat enough for good eating, even when feeding on the best Montana bunch-grass, or the famous grama of Texas. And when he is forced to live awhile on the black sage of Nevada, or the nopal cactus of Texas, or the broom-sedge of Georgia, what can we expect?—Stephen Powers, in *American Sheep Breeder*.

Worth \$1000

The Good Derived From Hood's Sarsaparilla

"BURLINGTON, Vt., June 6, 1891.

"Six months ago I was badly run down, unable to attend to business because of indigestion and

Dyspepsia

I was very nervous, had no appetite, and what I did eat distressed me. I grew worse, lost flesh and almost hope. Was told that if I wished to live I must go away for change and rest. I felt **Too Weak To Get Away**. But finally went, and came home feeling about as bad as ever. Then I took two bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla and feel better than for 5 years. I am as hearty as when a boy. Have regained my flesh, have good appetite, sleep well, and my Nerves are in excellent condition. I would not value \$1000 for what

Hood's Sarsaparilla

did for me." T. A. WHELOCK, Burlington, Vt.
N. B.—Be sure to get Hood's.

HOOD'S PILLS—Invigorate the liver, regulate the bowels. Effective, but gentle. Price 25 cents.

Our Farm.

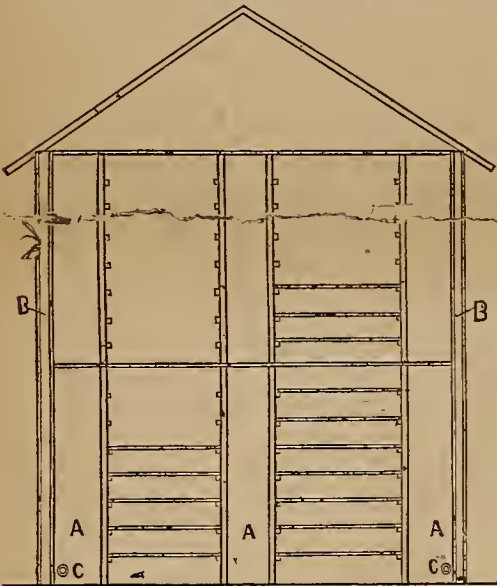
NOTES FROM MY HOME GARDEN.

BY JOSEPH.

SQUASH GROWING AND STORING.—With the entire absence of troublesome insects this year, I find it very easy to grow a fine crop of Hubbard and other squashes. In fact, all that is required is to plant the seed in heavily-manured ground, in hills not less than ten or twelve feet apart each way, give ordinary good cultivation until the vines nearly cover the ground, and let them run at random. My patch is so completely matted over that I have not dared even to walk through it for weeks, and I believe even a light frost will have some difficulty in finding its way through it; but I can see a great quantity of fine, large squashes when peeking in under the dense foliage from the edges.

With the price good squashes usually bring in our city and village markets, I should think an acre of squashes, lying as thickly together as they apparently do in my patch, would be a very profitable crop, and bring in more money than almost any other vegetable, or even fruit. The best prices, of course, are always obtained for squashes marketed during winter. Consequently, the question of safe wintering is an important one. In a general way, squashes require about the same conditions for long keeping as do sweet potatoes. They should not be handled roughly, and must be carefully kept from even a touch of frost. The storage-room should be dry and rather warm, say, from 50° to 60° Fahrenheit.

Mr. Henry Price, of Ohio, gives me a description of his "warm-house," used for the storage of sweet potatoes and squashes, as follows: "The dimensions are 32 feet by



CROSS-SECTION OF SQUASH STORAGE-HOUSE. A A A, walks; B B, dead air space; C C, hot water pipes.

60 feet. First floor 12 feet high; the upper room 4 feet at the wall. The frame of the building rests on a stone wall. It has double walls lined with building paper, so as to give a dead air space all around. Doors and windows are all double. I have a door in front and back, three windows on each side, and in the wall I have distributed eight 8-inch tile for lower ventilation. There are three hatch-holes in floor above, for heat to rise to the top, and one window in each gable. There are also three galvanized ventilators and a brick chimney going out at the roof. These and the tiles in wall can be stopped up with rags in cold weather. I will guarantee this house to be frost proof, but for safety I put in an ordinary coal-stove with a drum, on second floor. The first floor is a ground floor. The upper floor will be used for squash storage."

For squash storage on a large scale, I would suggest a building as shown in the illustration, and now in actual use by Illinois growers. The walls are double, containing one or perhaps two dead air spaces. The roof should also be double and tight. The house inside is kept at the right temperature by hot water pipes near the floor next to the sides of the building. Furnace-room and hot water boiler is outside in a separate room. The entire interior consists of movable shelves, and far enough apart to allow squashes to be stored two deep. Space is left for a walk all around to the shelves. The house may be of any dimensions desired, of one, two or three floors. As from two to four cents a pound is only an ordinary winter price for Hubbard squashes in our markets, I

believe the industry can be made much more profitable than the production of musk or water melons, especially as the crop is so much less perishable than the melons.

WINTER STORAGE OF CABBAGES.—The old way of burying with the roots up is yet one of the simplest, but it is not a safe method unless the ground is naturally dry and well drained. If this is the case, you can set two rows of cabbages close together, roots up, and the large, outside leaves nicely folded around the heads. Next, throw one or two furrows to them from each side with a one-horse plow, and finally throw on more soil with a spade, forming a ridge, which should be smoothed and patted down solid. The ends of roots only are exposed. Brush may be placed over these ridges to hold the snow. An easy way of keeping cabbage for winter use, especially suitable for farmers, is to put the heads into a corner of the barn floor, well surrounded by straw or hay.



BLANCHING CELERY WITH ONE BOARD.—BEFORE EARTH IS DRAWN UP.

It is not necessary to protect them altogether from freezing, but from alternate freezing and thawing. Cover them rather lightly, and you have easy access to them at any time. All vegetables, when stored, should be perfectly dry, otherwise they are sure to rot. Cabbages, especially, must be carefully dried off before they are put away. When slightly wilted they are apt to keep best. For immediate use during the beginning of winter, wrap a few heads into ordinary newspaper (several thicknesses) and hang up in the cellar.

CELERY BLIGHT.—My early celery—all White Plume—was and is in spots badly affected with blight; but the ground is so strong, and we have so much rain now that new growth is made much faster than the blight can destroy the old growth. The disease has now also spread to the later celery—Giant Pascal, New Rose and Golden Heart—but is not making much headway against the thrifty growth. Whether my thorough applications of Bordeaux mixture keeps the disease in check or not, I am not prepared to positively assert; still, I believe they have done some good, and the blight seems to spread much slower after treatment than before.

Mr. M. Garrahan, a large celery grower of Kingston, Pa., writes me that blight has given him much trouble this season. Yet he feels able to control fungus diseases by spraying, if weather is not too unfavorable. He also believes that the tendency to blight may be inbred in the seed. At least seed raised from a few plants slightly affected with blight has given plants that blighted very badly, when plants from other seed by their side were entirely exempt. This may be accidental, however. I notice that the disease appears to spread from centers of infection. Thus, one part of a row may be all blighted while other parts are entirely healthy. So with different rows side by side, when all are growing on the same kind of soil and have received the same kind of treatment. We cannot account for the different behavior of plants or rows of plants. More experiments must be made before conclusions can be drawn.

BLANCHING CELERY WITH ONE BOARD.

In an article on shading and blanching celery, in FARM AND FIRESIDE of August 15, it is stated that the shading-board can be used, but would require another board. Now, allow me to suggest a plan I have hit upon, where only the one board is necessary. I think you will agree with me when I say that celery is far better when blanched in earth than any other

way. The quality is greatly improved over that blanched with paper or boards. The sketch I enclose will, I think, make plain my way of doing it with one board and have all the benefits of earth blanching with half the labor. This way the rows can be placed at least as close as three feet for all the dwarf or half dwarf varieties, as it takes but little earth to cover the celery with the board backing the celery row. At the end I nail a short piece of board to the long one to hold the soil up to the first celery plant, and throw a little earth along bottom edge of board to exclude any light that might come in from back, between edge of board and ground.

Havana, N. Y.

C. D. S.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

PEAR-TREE SLUG.

The pear-tree slug begins its work about the middle of June or first of July. It works on the upper side of the leaf, eating out the tissue and leaving only the under skin and veins. In this manner it will sometimes destroy all the foliage of pear or cherry trees. The insect passes the winter in the pupa state in the ground, the flies, the progenitors of the mischievous brood of slugs, appearing in May or June in the northern states. The female is a little over one fifth of an inch long, and the male is a little smaller. When the trees on which these flies are working are disturbed, they fall to the ground, and folding up their antennae, they remain motionless for awhile.

The female deposits her eggs early in June, in the leaves, in slits made with a saw-like appendage at the end of her body, which cuts through the skin of the leaf. In about two weeks these eggs hatch into little white slugs, which are not slimy at first, but the slimy matter oozes out of the skin after a short time and covers the body. After changing their skin four times they attain the length of half an inch or more. They are then nearly full-grown, larger at the head, and covered with a slimy, dark, brownish matter and have a disagreeable odor. After its next moult it loses its slimy covering and appears in a clean, yellowish skin. Shortly after this change it leaves the foliage and buries itself in the ground three or four inches deep. It there forms a cell for itself, undergoes its changes and in about two weeks appears in the winged form. These deposit a second brood the latter part of July, and this late brood retires to the ground in about four weeks, changes to pupa and remains in that condition until the following spring.

Remedies:—Fresh, air-slacked lime dusted on the foliage is an effectual remedy. Hellebore-powder mixed in water, in the proportion of one ounce to two gallons, and syringed on the foliage, is also a sure remedy.



BLANCHING CELERY WITH ONE BOARD.—AFTER EARTH IS DRAWN UP.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Seedling Peach-trees.—J. S. Poplar Bluff, Mo., writes: "I will the Crawford and Mixon varieties of peaches reproduce themselves from seed? 2. Are trees grown from the seed longer lived, usually, than budded trees?"

REPLY:—1. No, they will not come true from seed; but seedlings from them are generally of good size and quality. 2. Yes.

Duchess of Oldenburg.—F. D. C. Cordelia, Cal., writes: "What is the name of the apple which follows the Red Astrachan, which, I believe, is also a red-striped apple?"

REPLY:—You probably mean the Duchess of Oldenburg, which probably does well over a greater extent of country than any other variety. It fruits young and regularly, and is very popular.

Kelsey Plum.—T. B. writes from Orlando,

Florida, as follows: "I have Kels trees, five years old, that blossom full fruit don't set, and that is a general complaint. They are grafted on plum roots from the root very badly, and are so the trees have to be supported to from falling over. Please tell me do to make them hold their fruit."

REPLY:—We should be glad to hear from growers about the best way of growing this fruit; also in regard to its known value for marketing purposes in this country.

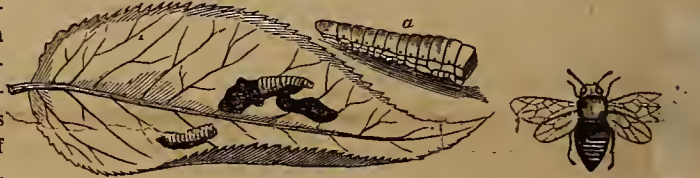
Blight—Aphis.—L. A. F., Montrose, Ohio. No specimens were enclosed in your letter, so I cannot tell much about your pear-tree leaves. I believe, however, they were affected with blight, for it is very prevalent over the entire country. Probably your young apple leaves are injured by lice (aphides), which have been very prevalent all summer. The best remedy for the aphid is kerosene emulsion. The raspberry girdlers may be considerably lessened by collecting and destroying the infested canes. The ladybugs are useful insects, since in their larval state they live largely on plant-lice.

Mildew.—H. R. B., White Blrd, Idaho, writes: "What is the matter with peach-trees when some of the leaves get a whitish color on the under side and roll up? Some of the tender stalk get that whitish color also. What will prevent it? It looks something like a heavy mold."

REPLY:—The growth of peach-trees is often injured by a mildew which attacks the new growth and checks its development. It seldom attacks other than the tender varieties, and while it may be kept off by applying fungicides, yet the best remedy consists in planting the hardier varieties, or selecting a drier location. There is another disease of peach leaves, commonly called "curl-leaf," from the attacks of which the leaves curl up and become covered with white, blister-like swellings; but I judge yours are not affected with it.

Raspberries, Blackberries and Plums.—O. N. T., Anderson, Ind., writes: "1. What value has the grape-vine raspberry? 2. What the Wilson Jr. or tree blackberry? 3. Can blackberries and raspberries be propagated from cuttings, the same as currants? 4. Do not plums succeed well in black soil? 5. In planting a plum orchard, would it be advisable to plant several varieties promiscuously? 6. Salt applied under fruit-trees in the spring is said to destroy curculio. If this is true, how much can be used with safety to the trees?"

REPLY:—1. We do not know anything about the grape-vine raspberry. 2. The Wilson Jr. is a variety of blackberry that does very well, indeed, in some localities, but is not, as a rule,



PEAR-TREE SLUG.

nearly so popular as some other kinds. 3. It is possible to so propagate them, but it is seldom done. The suckering kinds, and purple cane kinds, like Schaffer's Colossal and Philadelphia, and all the blackberries grow readily from root cuttings. 4. Yes, if not too loose or moist. 5. Do not plant promiscuously, but plant select kinds in parallel rows. Some kinds do not need others near them to do their best, while other varieties are greatly improved thereby. 6. Salt applied to fruit-trees will not destroy the curculio, but three or four pounds could be used to advantage around medium-sized plum-trees on most inland soils. Soils near the ocean have sufficient, supplied them by heavy sea winds. Some cheap potash salt would probably be better than common (soda) salt.

Raspberries Winter-killed.—P. G., Isante, Minn., writes: "I have a patch of raspberries, but they are destroyed every winter by the intense cold up here, I think. Can it be prevented by covering them?"

REPLY:—The trouble with your raspberries is as you suggest. They should be laid flat and covered with soil late in the fall, but not until there is danger of the ground freezing up. Some few growers in Minnesota leave such hardy kinds as Cuthbert and Turner without protection, but the best growers consider it necessary to cover each year. It is done as follows: A forkful of soil four to six inches deep is taken away from the side of the hill towards which the plants are to lie. The canes of the hill are then gathered together with a wide fork and are pushed toward the ground; at the same time the foot is placed on the root, and the plants are gently forced flat to the ground by being bent in the root. They are then covered with soil about two inches deep. It will be found a saving of labor to lay a little straw or sod on the ends of the canes before putting on the soil, as this prevents the canes from springing back up through a thin covering of soil. The plants should lie lengthwise of the row, and the common practice is to first put on only enough soil to hold the plants on the ground and then plow up a furrow from each side of the plants and dress off with a hoe. Some growers practice putting coarse manure on the plants after being thus laid down. This makes a good mulch to retain the moisture in the summer, and also acts as further protection in winter. They should be uncovered as soon as the buds commence to start in the spring. This operation must not be delayed too late. They can be raised by using a dug-fork and gently shaking the dirt off the canes and leaving them in a slanting position to straighten up themselves. Raspberries are readily grown in Minnesota by intelligent management.

Apples Dropping Off.—L. L. C., Richmond, Va., writes: "What is the matter with our apple-trees? They are very large trees, healthy looking, but do not bear. They bloom profusely every spring, but the apples drop before maturing. We have dug around the trees and put ashes and some iron. Would you advise putting more? Do you think lime would be better? I don't think the land has ever been limed."

REPLY:—Since the trees are perfect in appearance, I should think the trouble must lie in the flowers. These may have very tender pistils, or anthers, which are easily injured by sudden changes in the weather, by frost, cold rains, etc. If the trouble has been of several years' continuance, you had better graft the trees with some hardier kinds. Sometimes trees drop their fruit on account of weakness. This was evident a year ago last spring in many northern states, after the very warm winter of '89-'90, when many trees blossomed full, but dropped their fruit.

Strawberries.—W. H. C., Panasoffkee, Fla., writes: "Last year I averaged only 1,500 boxes of strawberries per acre. They were grown on light, sandy soil. I attribute the small yield to poverty of soil. Still, we often use one ton of good commercial fertilizer, such as Mapes' fruit and vegetable fertilizer, and the yield is never very great here. But the business here is not very well understood. W. D. Barnes says, in last issue of FARM AND FIRESIDE, 'Never use a plant that has borne fruit.' Is there any foundation for such a statement? I am keeping six acres of my old bed free from weeds and grass. I kept two acres clean last year, and I thought they yielded as well as the new ones."

REPLY:—One thousand five hundred boxes of strawberries per acre is too small a crop to be satisfied with. If you have not tried the newer popular varieties of strawberries, I suggest that you do so on a small scale. I think you are using enough fertilizer, but perhaps you could supplement a part of it and use less to advantage by occasionally plowing in a crop of cow peas when preparing the land for the crop. Mapes' fertilizers are good, but you had better try what effect you get by using ground bone and potash. I have used for strawberries on sandy land, and with good results, a fertilizer made of 600 pounds of coarse rendered bone from soap factory, and 200 pounds kainit. The latter is a cheap, low grade of potash salt. Strawberry plants that have once fruited are not fit to set in a new plantation. Such plants, no matter how treated, are weak, and do not develop so well as strong, healthy young plants. An old strawberry bed may be kept over sometimes to advantage, but only when it is in good condition after the crop is gathered and free from insect pests and rust. It should be immediately mown close and the tops raked together and burned. The rows should be plowed so as to leave a strip twelve inches wide. This strip should then be cut across with a hoe, so as to take out the old plants and leave the young plants in squares. The bed should then have a heavy manuring with some rich commercial fertilizer or well-rotted stable manure.

Cocklin Pear.—W. H. Arendt, Ill., writes: "The Cocklin pear, originated in Pennsylvania by Mr. E. H. Cocklin, is a cross between the Chinese sand pear and our cultivated varieties. The fruit is double turbinate in shape, or pointed at both ends, flesh white, and when ripe, rich and juicy, with a pleasant vinous flavor, and will rank, when properly grown and ripened, with Bartlett. Season of ripening, midautumn, coming in between Garber and Keiffer. I would advise W. W. G. to let his one hundred trees of Cocklin alone, if his soil and climate are favorable, and if he has the genuine Cocklin, the nurseryman's mistake will not be so serious after they come well into fruiting. All the hybrids (Keiffer, Cocklin, Garber, etc.) should have their long, rank growth cut back two thirds during early winter, as they demand and will stand more pruning than any other race of pears."

M. J. Graham, of Iowa, writes regarding the Cocklin pear: "I notice in the last catalogue of the Parry nurseries that they continue to grow the Cocklin pear, and they refer to the hybrids to which this class belongs by the remark that 'they inherit the hardiness, beauty and luxuriance of the orientals, combined with the delicious qualities of our commonly cultivated pears.'" Mr. Graham further says: "I have a pear orchard of 200 trees (largely experimental), two and three years planted, including Garber's Hybrid, Smith's Hybrid, Duchess Hybrid, Early Harvest, etc., but no Cocklin or Keiffer. The hybrids make an annual growth of three to four feet, and are perfectly healthy, while Bartlett and Flemish Beauty blight."

Charles Black, New Jersey, says of the Cocklin: "It is similar to LeConte, and I do not think W. W. G. would find it a profitable market sort to ship north."

HIGH-PRICED BUTTER.

Buyers pay the highest price for "glit-edged butter," but want every tub to be an even, bright color. Charles H. Anderson, one of the best known butter buyers in New York, says: "Creamery butter always sells quickly at good prices because of its evenness in quality and color, and I know of no reason why a small dairy should not do the same."

"This golden yellow that is so much admired by the butter user and which makes the butter sell for several cents above the market price, can be obtained easily with Wells, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color. There are many other colors sold, but this gives the most uniform color, keeps perfectly sweet, and does the most coloring for the same amount of money."

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.—Florence, the baby county of South Carolina, is one of the most productive in the state. Cotton and grain are its chief products, while the cultivation of tobacco is rapidly gaining a foothold. Florence, the county-seat, is a thriving little city of about 5,000 inhabitants. It is one of the principal railroad centers in this state. The climate is healthful and the water good.

Florence, S. C.

M. D. H.

FROM IOWA.—Crops of all kinds are good. Corn will yield 65 to 75 bushels to the acre; wheat, 25 bushels; oats, 65; rye, 25 bushels. Small fruit is plenty. There were a good many apples until the storm, three weeks ago, but the wind blew most of the apples and pears off; there is an abundance of peaches and blue plums. Health is good. Wages, \$1 per day for day labor. Horses sell for \$100 to \$125, cows for \$15, calves for \$5 to \$7. Land is worth \$40 to \$50. We have good society. The people are moral, sober, industrious, law-abiding and charitable. K. B. A.

Kossuth, Iowa.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Tacoma is the county-seat of Pierce county, and has a population of 40,000. Manufacturing is carried on here on a large scale. Tacoma has a smelter, match factory, coffin factory, furniture factory, two immense sawmills and the car shops of the Northern Pacific railroad, which is estimated at \$3,000,000. The city is lighted with electricity, and has electric and cable street-cars. This is not much of a farming country, only about one sixth of the land being good farm land. The remainder is gravelly upland. Hop raising pays well here. Land ranges from \$10 to \$500 per acre, owing to quality and location. Potatoes are worth 1 cent per pound; onions, from 2 to 5 cents; cabbage, 4; butter, 35; eggs, 30 per dozen. Wages in the logging camps and sawmills, \$2 per day; plasterers and carpenters, from \$2.50 to \$5 per day.

Tacoma, Wash.

FROM VIRGINIA.—Loudon county is the banner county of eastern Virginia. The corn crop is looking fine. There was a good crop of wheat; also of hay. The fruit crop is immense. There is a large number of sheep in this county. Dairying is carried on to some extent. There are several creameries and separators running, and a large amount of milk is sent to the cities. Our town of Hillsboro has a new creamery and roller-mill, both doing a good business. The weather was very reasonable this summer, with plenty of rain. August was moderately warm, but the early part of the season was quite cool. There has not been a severe winter for four years. This county is noted for fine timber, good land and well-watered farms. Good, well-improved farms can be bought for from \$20 to \$50 per acre. Horses, cows and farm implements are cheap.

Hillsboro, Va.

S. M. J. H.

FROM MICHIGAN.—Tuscola county is located in the north-central part of the state. The Michigan Central railroad, the F. & P. M. and other railroads run through this county. Farming and stock raising are its largest industries. Our people are sociable, generous and ready to receive and welcome young, healthy, bona fide settlers who will come here to help clear up our land and take out the pine stumps, and help improve the many advantages that we enjoy. Taxes are nominal, and our county is out of debt. Our school advantages are excellent in all parts of the county. Water is abundant and good. There is plenty of good land that can be bought for \$12 to \$15 per acre. Improved farms for \$25 to \$40. There is an abundance of wild fruit, such as grapes, blackberries, raspberries and gooseberries. Our winters for the last few years have been very mild.

Millington, Mich.

J. H. B.

FROM NEBRASKA.—Knox county is located 80 miles west of Sioux City, and is one of the best counties in the state for grain and stock farming. The county is well watered. It has cold springs and running streams of clear, pure water, fine grazing and hay lands and farm lands of black loam. A failure of crops has not been known in eighteen years. The crops this year are the best known in this county for fifteen years. Wheat is yielding from 20 to 40 bushels to the acre; oats, from 50 to 80 bushels. The corn crop is very heavy. Crops on many of the farms would pay for the land that they grow on. Good land can be bought for from \$8 to \$12 per acre on long time. Knox, Antelope, Pierce and Madison counties, perhaps, cannot be beat in the world for the raising of sugar-beets. The largest sugar factory in the world is located at Norfolk, 40 miles from Creighton. We have a healthful climate as can be found in the United States, good society, good schools and churches.

Creighton, Neb.

R. H. D.

FROM KENTUCKY.—Since my last letter to FARM AND FIRESIDE, early last spring, several families have moved into our county (Calloway), and I hope before another spring to see many more coming in. I verily believe we have the poor man's country; and while this is so, ours is a good country for capital, for sev-

LOVETT'S BEST BLACKBERRY

Is large, beautiful and hardy; ripens early, of highest quality and marvelously prolific. Fully illustrated and described in our Fall Catalogue. In it will be found offered also Beebe, Lovett's Early, Iowa Beauty, Jucunda Improved and Shuster's Gem Strawberries, Lovett Raspberry, Japanese Wineberry, Tree Blackberry, Success Juneberry, Carrough Apple, Lovett's White Peach, Idaho Pear, Lincoln Plum, Fuller Quince, Hardy Orange, Japanese Walnuts, and a host of other interesting and valuable novelties, together with all the good old varieties of Orchard and Small Fruits, Ornamental Trees and Plants, Nut Trees &c., at prices lower than can be found elsewhere for good Trees and Plants. Free to all applicants.

J. T. LOVETT CO., Little Silver, N. J.

eral companies have men in this county getting our fine timbers, for which they are paying good prices. Our lands are advancing but little, owing, no doubt, to the fact that there is so much land lying idle—good, rich land, too. We have some hilly land that is not of much value to our people, which, if some energetic fruit-grower had, would yield handsome returns. Our land and climate are suited to stock raising, fruit and vegetable growing, tobacco culture and the grains and grasses. Here is the home of fine manufacturing tobaccos, and there are some five or six manufacturing in the county. We need more energetic, "git-up-and-git" farmers, and to all such we have a hearty welcome. Come, you who wish a milder climate, and enjoy the fat of the land. I know of several farms, improved, which could be bought for \$10 or \$12 per acre.

Hemlin, Ky.

F. T.

FROM ILLINOIS.—We appeared to have the best of prospects for a heavy wheat crop, but when threshing time came the majority of our farmers were disappointed, as the straw was very long and heavy and the wheat comparatively light. Wheat averaged about 25 bushels to the acre. Corn now has a good show, and has almost matured. Potatoes, as usual, turned out well, and a great many are digging them now. The crop far exceeds that of last year. Clover hay was good, and the abundance brought the price down as low as \$3 per load in the field. Timothy, however, did not amount to much, as the weeds crowded it so much that it was hard to find any clean timothy hay. All fruits turned out fairly, pears, peaches, apples and plums being abundant. Talk about your delicious fruits; but, oh, just hush! When it comes to one of those big, juicy pears—they almost melt in a person's mouth. We have two or three trees of this kind, and all are loaded. They sell at from 60 cents to \$1.25 per bushel. Blackberries, both wild and tame, were plentiful. Butter at present is selling at 15 cents per pound; eggs, 12½ cents per dozen; pork, 5 cents per pound, and wheat at 86½ cents per bushel. H. E. D.

Millstadt, Ill.

FROM MARYLAND.—Montgomery county was organized in 1776, and has, therefore, passed its centennial. It has a population of nearly 28,000 and an area of 500 square miles. It possesses many desirable advantages, bordering on the District of Columbia, and extending north and north-west about thirty-five miles. The county has a south-eastern slope between the tide-water lowlands and the mountains, and is gently undulating. The climate is temperate, rarely reaching zero in winter or above 90° in summer. The Appalachian ranges west of us afford protection from storms and winds, and we seldom have severe storms or very high winds. The river bottom lands are as fertile as any in the United States, and many upland farms are very productive. Many large farms would admit of division and be better for owners and county. We seldom have a drought of more than six weeks. Springs and streams are numerous. Good crops of corn, wheat and hay are produced, and fruits, from the early, luscious strawberry to the winter apple, are plentiful and easily raised. Corn is selling for 70 cents a bushel. There is a creamery near here which buys milk of the farmers, many of whom keep a large number of cows. Others ship milk to Washington City. This county has furnished her quota to the population of the West. We have citizens who tried it in the much-vaunted West, even in California and Texas, who have returned and are useful and diligent residents of "old Montgomery," and there is room and welcome for other desirable settlers who wish to enjoy the advantages of our climate, near markets, churches, schools and good society.

Poolesville, Md.

G. W. F.

Do You Want a Year's Subscription Free? and the Best Weekly Farm Paper for the Rest of this Year Free, also?

We are again getting up a big club of subscriptions for the best of all the weekly farm papers, *The Rural New-Yorker*. Its regular price is \$2.00 a year, and it is well worth it. Its price to clubs is \$1.50 to each subscriber in the club. We will take your subscription at \$1.50 and include a year's subscription to FARM AND FIRESIDE without extra charge, *The Rural New-Yorker* to be sent from date of receipt of order to January 1, 1893. You can get a specimen copy of *The Rural New-Yorker* free by addressing the publishers, New York City.

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Cook Stove DRIER

Handiest. Cheapest. Best. 12 sq. feet of Trays. Weight 25 pounds. Circulars Free. AGENTS AM. MFG. CO., Waynesboro, Pa. WANTED



WITH EXTRACT OF MALT. For Throat and Lung troubles, Debility, Scrofula, and Incipient Consumption.—Enriches the Blood, Increases flesh and strength.—Palatable.

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Retail price only \$6.00. Will knit Stockings, Mitts, Scarfs, Leggings, Fancy work and everything required in the household, from home-spun or factory yarn. Simple and easy to operate. Just the machine every family has long wished for. On receipt of \$2.00 I will ship machine, threaded up, with full instructions by express. C. O. D. You can pay the balance, \$4.00, when the machine is received. Large commission to agents. Circulars and terms free. Safe delivery and satisfaction guaranteed. Address J. E. GEARHART, Clearfield, Pa.

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ART in needlework is on the advance. We know the ladies delight in odd pieces of silk and satin. "CRAZY QUILTS" making is VERY POPULAR. We are sure we have a bargain that all ladies will now delight in. Bright, handsome, odd-shaped, and pretty colored goods accumulate very fast at all NECKTIE FACTORIES; for years have been burdened and over-run with remnants of many RICH GOODS. We have thousands of pieces of silk and satin on hand which we are going to give you a big trade on. People at a distance have hard times getting the right assortment to put into sofa-pillows, quilts, etc., and we can help you out now. We are going to dispose of this immense lot RIGHT OFF. Our packages contain from 99 to 193 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get a lot introduced into every home; then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these pieces are carefully trimmed, and especially adapted to all sorts of fancy art and needle work. Many ladies sell ties, fancy pillows, etc., at a great price made from these remnants. Order one sample lot now for only 25c. It would cost many dollars bought at a store. GRAND OFFER: If you order our great assorted lot AT ONCE, we will give you, absolutely FREE, Beskies of elegant embroidery silk, all different bright colors. This silk is worth nearly the price we ask for the remnants; but we know if you order ONE lot we will sell many in your locality, so make this liberal offer. Three lots for \$5.00, five for \$10.00. BEST WAY. We send ONE of the above complete assorted lots FREE to all who send 25 cents for 6 months subscription to "COMFORT," the best Home Monthly now published, or if you send for more than one lot as above, "COMFORT" goes for one year.

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Our Fireside.

ZEK'EL BROWN UNBURDENS HIMSELF.

The neatest woman in town,
Folks say I've got for a wife;
And what folks say is gospel truth
This time, you bet your life.
Keturah Brown, she beats the world
On hakin' bread an' pies,
But her best hold is fightin' dirt
And cirenmventin' flies.
Her temper's like her pie-crust, which
They're both uncommon short;
An' tho' I'm free-and-easy like,
Sometimes she makes me snort.
There ain't no sense in havin' things
So awful all-fired neat,
Nor sayin' ev'ry time I step,
"Now, Zek'el, wipe your feet!"
I can't sit down in our best room,
It is so slick and spruce;
Fact is, most everything we've got's
Too good for common use.
Though next to godliness the Book
Puts cleanliness, I'm bound
To say Keturah's mighty apt
To run it in the ground.
There ain't no use in kickin'. I'm
Prepared to bear my cross;
Some day, perhaps, I'll wear my crown;
Keturah she can't boss.
Things round in heaven. Au' since we're told
That there no moth nor rust
Comes to corrupt, I guess it's safe
To say there ain't no dust.
But, oh, what will Keturah do
Within those pearly gates,
If she no longer finds the dirt
That she so dearly hates?
O'ershadowed heaven itself will be,
Engulfed in awful gloom,
When my Keturah enters in
And cannot use a broom.

—Portland Transcript.

DAINTY ROOM.

BY DAMA B. STEVENS.

GIRLS, I wish I could take you with me into the dainty room I wish to describe. Gladly would I introduce you to the dark-haired, dark-eyed young maiden of fifteen summers, who is not only its mistress, but the designer of all its pretty furnishings.

This low, square room, with its one door, one narrow, double window and smooth, matched floor, has its counterpart in many an old country house, though I doubt if one of them is more daintily or simply furnished.

"What did you do first?" asked I, when this young maiden showed me, with a just-pride, her room.

"Well," was the reply, "first, I filled the cracks in the floor with putty for the border. Then I painted it and the woodwork, going over each twice.

"Yes, I did the painting myself. Mamma says if I wash the paint (a deep, creamy white) in clear, tepid water, wiping it dry with a soft cloth, I can keep it looking just so nice and glossy for a long time.

"Mamma thought I ought not to hang the paper, so a professional did that part. I selected it, though."

I did not wonder at her adding this last bit of information, for the paper is lovely. Over its creamy ground flowers and foliage trail in luxuriant profusion. Still lighter shades of the same colors, yellow shading into browns and touched with old pink, are seen in the plainly-papered ceiling, while in the eighteen-inch frieze the shades are much deepened. In fact, she had selected one of the inexpensive, matched, cretonne papers now shown in all paper stores.

"I did so want an ingrain carpet," continued this young maiden, "but papa thought he could not afford it. Then I looked at matting, with the same result. Finally I thought of this, and, I think, it looks very well. Besides, it has the good qualities of cheapness, durability and cleaning easily."

Now, what do you suppose this carpet, or rather rug, as it only covers the unpainted floor, is made of? Just brown denim, light side up, with a border of the reverse side having mitered corners. She should have added pretty and artistic to its list of "good qualities."

"From whence came your idea for this novel window drapery?" was my next query.

"Oh," was the laughing reply, "from seeing a shelf over a door. I thought I could make something a little different from what the other girls have, so coaxed brother Roy to help me put up a shelf."

This shelf, a common board eight inches wide, rested on iron brackets screwed to the window casings; not even with the top, but standing an inch or two above. Two wires were stretched taut across the casing and fastened to the bracket openings. Over the one nearest the casing curtains of creamy white, cotton crepe edged with cotton fringe, were shirred; over the other, curtains of pale yellow silkoline strewn with flowers in shades of brown, and both were looped back with crocheted bands suspended from bangle-board hooks in the casings. The shelf was draped with silkoline, festooned across the front and falling in natural folds low down the sides, and ornamented with a blue and white pitcher, a bright red jar and a few odd pieces of bric-a-brac, which, she said, "would not bear too close inspection."

"I was a little fearful of the silkoline," said the maiden, "but mamma says if I wash it in lukewarm soapsuds, made with pure soap, rinse in clear water, dry in the shade and iron on the wrong side when nearly dry, I can keep it looking just like new. She also says I can keep the creamy tint of my curtains if I treat them the same way, adding strong, strained coffee to the rinse water."

"How about your dressing-table covers?" I asked.

"Oh, I shall treat them the same way, substituting a little stralued starch for the coffee," was the reply.

Her dressing-table and commode are only boxes, but so dressed up with sheet-wadding, cotton-cloth and dotted lawn, worked with yellow daisies in the long-petal stitch, that they never tell their humble origin. Around the outside is a full valance of the worked lawn, and over the top a spread of unworked lawn tied fassel-fashion at the corners with yellow ribbon. At the back is a full valance, half a yard deep, of the worked lawn, shirred over picture wire stretched taut through screw-eyes in the wall that are hidden by brass plaques, painted with wild roses and scarlet poppies. Hanging above and lengthwise with the table is a mirror draped with lawn and tied with yellow ribbon, "to hide its shabby frame," she says.

"Now," said I, turning to the low cottage bed, with white spread and dainty, hem-stitched pillow-slips, "tell me about this pretty affair, which is so suggestive of 'Nature's sweet restorer—sleep.'"

"I forgot to tell you," was the smiling reply, "that I painted it, and this when I did the woodwork. It may be pretty now, but it was just a horrid, old bedstead to begin with! Sand-paper and paint rubbed out and covered up its many mars and scratches, though, making it quite presentable."

"What do you think this is for?" she continued, laying her hand on a curtain of silkoline falling in full folds from ceiling to floor, against which the head of the bed rested. The bed sets diagonally across one corner, with its head out from the wall a foot or more at the back side.

"Indeed, I don't know, unless for an effective background for your bed," was my reply. "No, indeed! See," sweeping the curtains aside, "my closet. There was none in the room, so I had to contrive one."

She also called my attention to the fact that the hooks were not driven into the wall, but into slats hung from four nails, as she did not "wish to ruin the wall or her pretty paper."

The "this" referred to was grandmother's old reel, tied with yellow ribbons to keep it from turning, and doing duty as a towel-rack. I am afraid "grandmother" would hardly recognize in this white, be-ribboned affair the old, rough reel her fingers had turned so many, many times.

"Under here I keep my toilet articles," was her next comment, as she swept aside the commode-curtains. "Cup number one contains corn-meal; cup number two, butter-milk, or a lemon or fresh tomato, whichever comes handiest; and cup number three, sweet cream, which I use in place of glycerine. In bottle number one I keep borax for softening water, and in number two, finely-powdered nitre (saltpeter) for freckles. You shouldn't think I would freckle? Well, I do, though; but I can easily remove them by dipping my finger in water, then in the powder and applying at brief intervals."

"Now," said I, seating myself near the window in a low, wooden rocker made gay with cushion and saddle-bags of silkoline, "explain, please, the use of all these enumerated articles, and the 'secret,' as you call it, of your clear, fresh complexion."

"All right!" she said, seating herself on a denim-covered shoe-box. "In the first place, I take a sponge bath several times a week, following it by a brisk rubbing with a rough towel. Mamma says if the face is compelled to do sewerage for the whole body, one's skin will soon look thick and mnddy, so I try to keep all the pores of my body open and in working order. Then, I never use ice-cold water or soap on my face. When the latter is necessary, I throw a handful of the meal into a little water, let it soak a few moments, wash my face thoroughly with it, rinse in clear water and dry on a soft towel."

"Once a week I give my face a Turkish bath; that is, I bathe it for several minutes in just as hot water as I can bear, then in cool water and dry with a soft towel. If I see any black-heads, which is not often, I get them out by pressing a small watch-key down over them while my face is warm, before applying the cool water."

"The buttermilk, or lemon or tomato juice, I use for sunburn, rubbing it well in, as mamma says that is 'half the cure.' I prefer the former, though, for it makes my skin soft and helps to keep it from chapping."

"Every morning—in fact, whenever I wash my face—I use cool water, throwing it on until my face is dripping wet. After drying, I give my forehead, eyes, cheeks and chin twenty strokes each with the palms of my hands, so," rubbing the forehead and chin from the middle outward, the cheeks upward and the eyes from the outside in and up over the eyebrows to the outer side again.

"How is this supposed to be beneficial?" I asked.

"Oh, it makes my skin soft, and, as mamma says, rubs out the 'wrinkles and crow's feet.'"

She also says if I wish to keep my hair soft and glossy I must give it one hundred brush strokes daily. Then, she has me see a dentist twice a year, as, she says, 'an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure.'"

From the complexion she drifted off onto underclothing, telling me how she had always worn her skirts suspended from the shoulders.

"When I was a little girl," said she, "I had them buttoned to waists. Now my petticoats are gathered to deep, fitted yokes and with my dress skirts attached, either with safety-pins or large buttons, to regular suspenders of webbing or elastic. I also wear combination suits, so I haven't one single band around my waist. Mamma says tight bands and heavy skirts dragging down on one's hips are not only health destroyers, but grace destroyers; and, do you know, I often wonder how the girls so hampered can walk at all. I really don't believe they can walk and run and dance as easily as I can."

"No, nor as gracefully, either," was my reply. "Mamma's 'hobbies,' as you call them, are sensible ones after all, I see."

"She has one, though, that I wish she didn't. All the other girls are wearing high-heeled shoes, and I want a pair so badly. They make one's feet look so small and trim! I don't see what harm it would do for me to have just one pair, instead of always wearing low-heeled shoes; indeed, I don't!"

The way in which this was said told me that grief and anger were close behind the suspiciously moist eyes and husky voice, so I tried to make my answer as consoling as possible.

"Perhaps, dear, mamma classes them with the health and grace destroyers. Then, it is also quite possible she thinks her little daughter's light, elastic step more graceful than the lame, hobbling gait of those who walk on tiny stilts, or, in other words, French heels. What think you, dear?"

"Perhaps she does," was the doubtful reply; "anyway, I guess mamma knows best."

"Yes, my little maiden, I 'guess' so, too; and more, I don't think you can ever do better than to follow her advice implicitly."

Reader, what think you?

ABOUT TABLE-LINEN.

"I am sick and tired of complaints and grumbling about the quality of the table-linen at present in use," said a leading manufacturer of fine goods of this sort.

"Almost every day some woman comes in here and indulges in all sorts of growls about her table-linen. It doesn't wear well, there is no gloss on it and it looks rough and unfinished. Besides, it is full of wrinkles that no amount of pains or pressing will remove. And she doesn't seem to know or care that it isn't the fault of the linen at all, but the way it is treated that makes all the trouble. Occasionally she visits her grandmother, or some aged and careful relative, and sees an old-time table-cloth as smooth and glossy as a piece of the finest satin. Of course, she declares that it is something dreadful how she gets imposed upon in buying her linen, and equally, of course, she comes to me and growls about it until, as I said, I am tired and worn out with it."

"I have repeatedly told such persons that the fault is not in the linen but in its handling, and they will not believe it, but keep right on using chemicals until its beauty is forever destroyed. Formerly, the mistress of the house looked after the doing up of the table-linen. It was examined with care, all spots removed as far as possible. It was washed with home-made soap and bleached on a smooth grass plot, rinsed in water, blined with indigo, carefully wrung out, shaken until perfectly smooth and dried in the sun. At evening, when the dew began to fall, it was taken in, dampened, folded, rolled up tightly, wrapped in a towel and left until next day, when it was ironed, and you could almost see your face in it."

"Now, just contrast that with the modern style of throwing the linen into water made strong by chemicals of various sorts, alkalies predominating, allowing it to remain for hours, perhaps over night, then running it through a wringer with a grip like a hydraulic press; throwing it over a line, wrinkles and all; letting it dry and whip in the wind; then brushing it in, and, while half dry, attempting to grind out the wrinkles with irons as hot as they can be used without the certainty of burning the goods. Now, what can you expect of a fabric treated in this way?"

"Linen made by present processes is just as durable and will come out of the laundry looking just as well as that owned by our grandmothers. But it must never come in contact with bleaching compounds or washing powders of alkaline liquids, if the beauty of it is to be preserved. And many of the modern soaps are unfit for use on such fine goods. The best soap is that which is made at home of pure grease and potash, or any good toilet soap may be used. I buy imported castile soap for this purpose. Of course, it is expensive—comparatively so, at least; but when one considers that table-linen of fine quality costs from three to eight dollars per yard, there is economy in using soap that will not ruin the handsome fabric."

"Much of the durability of linen which is used only on occasions, depends upon putting it away in proper condition. It should be thoroughly freed from starch and dried slowly in the shade. If there is a slight

breeze, all the better, as it will assist in softening the fibers of the cloth. If folded and put away with any starch in the threads, they are apt to crack, or, at least, become pressed into creases, which are very difficult of removal. Unquestionably, the best way is to wash the goods thoroughly, boil them and dry them out of a rinsing water without bluing. Many housekeepers claim that if linen is wrapped in blue paper it will not turn yellow. Others think this makes no difference. It is, however, well to put them in a dark place, and where they will not come in contact with colored goods, or with wood which may gather dampness. Linen mildews very easily, and should never be allowed to remain for any length of time in a damp place or in contact with a plastered wall."—New York Ledger.

THE GIRL THAT WINS.

A pretty, prominent and elderly married woman addressed a drawing-room of clever people the other evening on the subject of beauty as an agent in the advancement of the sex. After enumerating the advantages of personal loveliness and the hindrances of a homely exterior, she said long experience and close observation went to prove the superior success of the plain-featured women in matrimony, as in other fields of feminine enterprise. Of course, in numbers they are utterly disproportionate; but, even allowing for that vast difference, the ugly girl has things much her own way. To get at a sound basis for conclusions it is necessary, she said, to take powerless maidens from whom to argue.

Watch the careers of two belles and wall-flowers from the opening of the race. The butterflies invariably start out hampered by false notions of tributes due their charms. Not one in the list is ever quite able to resist pitting her bright eyes against the adamant strength of money and the exalted range of talent in an early struggle for place. She has no means of exactly gaging her powers, and by overestimation often comes to grief. Seldom, indeed, is a pretty girl taught the prudence of grasping opportunities, nursing chances, and making the sow's ear into some semblance of a silk purse. Her comeliness she regards as a magic lamp, only needing a bit of hurnishing to produce the fairy prince, palace and all, in a flash.

Of what use, then, the dull plodding, imperative for her plain sister? Alas! the flimsy little structure is built on the sand, waiting one strong wave of reality to knock the flimsy dreams into a cocked hat. Look about you and count the number of faded, thwarted beauties you know who are embittered dependents, or else, late in life, have picked up a broken stick in the shape of a partner to help disguise their crippled vanity. In fact, so frequently is this the case that between sixteen and twenty-six only extraordinary virtue or talent ever saves a belle from grievous folly in her aspirations. Parents, friends and flatterers only aggravate the case, foretelling the famous marriage that never takes place, and discouraging honest efforts to enter on any serious business. Beguiled into believing nature has graced her with rare superiority, what wonder she despises her legitimate sphere and yearns after the unattainable? And sadly enough, those dear, desirable parties she is trained to covet have a trick of loving Cinderella in the summer time, and when the serious business of marriage is broached, hieing away to wed the proud sister. The old, old story of that light-hearted hare, deluded by undue confidence in his natural speed, frisking away the priceless moments, while a dingy, unlovely mud-turtle crawls victoriously up to the winning-post. Clear-sightedness and a thorough understanding of the situation is to be half to the goal, and this is what the wall-flower has in her favor. No rosy spectacles confuse her vision, no sugar-plums jade her appetite; sweet delusions never lull the sense of duty, and who will say she is without the trump card?

CALM THOUGHT.

There is nothing which makes so great a difference between one man and another as the practice of calm and serious thinking. To those who have been unaccustomed to it there is required at first an effort; but it is entirely in their own power to repeat this effort if they will and when they will. It becomes easier every day by perseverance and habit, and the habit so acquired exerts a material influence upon their condition as responsible and immortal beings. In that great process, therefore, in which consists the healthy condition of any man as a mortal being, there is a most important step, of which he must be conscious as an exercise of his own mind.

You feel that you have a power, however little you may attend to the exercise of it. You can direct your thoughts to any subject you please; you can confine them to objects

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which are before you at the time, or occurrences which have passed during the day, or you can send them back to events which took place many years ago. You can direct them to persons whom you are in the habit of meeting from day to day, or to those who are separated from you by thousands of miles. You can place before you persons who lived and events that occurred long before you came into existence, and you can anticipate and realize events which are not likely to occur until you have ceased to exist. Study these wondrous processes of your mind; observe what power you have over them, and what consequences of eternal importance must arise from exercising them aright.

If you can think of any subject you please, why cannot you think of God, of his power, his wisdom, his holiness, his justice, of his law which he has written in your heart, and in his revealed word? Why cannot you think of and realize the period when you shall lie down in the grave, and that tremendous moment when all that are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and they that hear shall live and shall arise to judgment? Such truths as these, duly considered or thought of, could not fail, under divine influence, to exercise a powerful effect upon all our habits of thinking and acting in this life.

TOO MUCH HURRY.

We of to-day live in a perfect frenzy of hurry; we can never go quickly enough; we are forever discovering short cuts to reform, improvement and happiness in general, and straightway plunging headlong into them, and when one after the other proves to be an impasse, we hastily turn aside and look for a new one. There is poverty in the land; quick we rush to discover a means of making all men rich. Somebody or other offers to do it for us, if we will give him so many thousands of pounds and our full confidence. "Quick, give him the money," is the cry, and a howl of indignation is raised against those who beg us to stay our hand and reflect. There is drunkenness, and we clamor to close all the public houses. We are far too impatient to live the life ourselves, and watch the gradual improvement of our race; we long to push them from behind, to goad them on in the path of virtue with acts of parliament.

And the same with our expressions of opinion; we rush in the wildest haste to deliver them, to administer praise or blame. If any man be accused, he is hoisted into the pillory and pelted long before he has time to utter a word of defence; if any one pleases us, he is hailed as a hero, and loaded with honors and adulations even before we know exactly what it is that he has done, the result being that we are constantly making ourselves ridiculous; a result that matters the less in that we never really leave ourselves time to contemplate the ludicrous figure that we cut. In our private life we are in no way better. We have never time to enjoy to-day, because we are always living in to-morrow; and when to-morrow comes it finds all our attention fixed on the day after. Too soon we rejoice; too soon we despond; and we are forever either in one extreme or the other. Too soon we pour out our complaints in the newspapers, too soon we bring accusations against our neighbors, too soon we try to push ourselves into the front ranks, even too soon do we wish to enjoy the fruits of the earth. The forced strawberry and the too early asparagus are typical of our hurrying appetite. How much more comfortable and pleasant a place the world would be if we were only content to hurry less and enjoy more.—*The Spectator.*

THE EARTH'S BALANCE.

The map of the world, as geographers have outlined it, shows that there is a vast preponderance of land north of the equator. Humboldt estimated that Asia stands at an average height of 1,150 feet above the level of the ocean; South America, 1,130; North America, 750; Europe, 670 feet. The average height of all the land above sea-level—omitting Africa and Australia, which are mostly south of the equator—is about 920 feet. The landed surface of the northern hemisphere is about 44,000,000 square miles; that of the southern hemisphere about 14,000,000 to 16,000,000 square miles, leaving a difference of, say 28,000,000 square miles of land of an average height of 920 feet above sea-level.

But as there is the same visible excess of water on the southern side that there is of land on the northern, and as the depth of the seas is about the same, it follows that the weight of the excess of submerged land in the northern hemisphere must be added to the 28,000,000 square miles, doubling the height of it, making the landed surface of the northern at least 1,840 feet above the average surface of the southern hemisphere, both its continents and ocean depths. What is there south of the equator to balance this enormous weight? There must be something or the earth would not maintain its poise. If there was nothing, water level in that region would be impossible.

Professor Merriam believed that the balancing weight might be found in that 8,000,000 square miles of unexplored region lying within the Antarctic circle. If it does exist there in the shape of ice, as all scientists believe it does, these immense mountains of ice must necessarily be of an average of over two and a half miles to make the southern hemisphere in weight to the northern.

WONDERFUL SIGHTS ON THE SUN.

The ancients, who believed that the sun was as smooth and spotless as a golden mirror, would be unspeakably astonished if they could see it as it has appeared when viewed with telescopes the last few days. Two large groups, or rather rows, of spots, which are yet visible near the center of the disk, have exhibited to a wonderful degree the terrific effects of the explosive and cyclonic forces that are now, month by month, gathering greater energy upon the sun. Holes large enough to swallow up the earth, with plenty of room to spare, have been formed there in the sight of the astronomer; shining bars have been shot across the dark chasms like bridges of fire; the twisted forms of the great flame-like phenomena, which project hundreds of miles over the edges of the seemingly black and bottomless pits, have given evidence of the operation of a mighty whirling power, and the puncturing of the white disk with crowds of comparatively small, black holes in the neighborhood of the greater spots, has shown that over hundreds of thousands of square miles of the solar surface a tremendous rain of ejected matter is falling back upon the blazing photosphere.

Yet the changes that these outbursts are able to effect in the solar light and heat bear so small a proportion to the whole radiative energy of the sun that it is still an open question whether the earth feels them to a perceptible degree or not. It is only when a sun bursts out with such overwhelming might as was exhibited by the famous star in Cassiopea in 1572, or by a star in Cygnus in 1876, or by a star in Andromeda in 1885, that the planets circling around it are swept with fire. There is no known reason to believe that our sun will behave in that manner, at least in our time, and so everybody can enjoy the marvelous spectacle of the sunspots without apprehension for their consequences.—*New York Sun.*

CRYSTALLIZING FRUIT.

Though no authority on crystallizing fruit—that is, professionally—there is a simple process for home-crystallizing which I know of. The fruit is dried first. For this the finest fruit is selected. It must be very ripe, then thoroughly dried, and after this "sweated." Then it is dipped in the very heaviest sirup one can make—say that used for candied fruit, which is a gill of water to a pound of sugar. I can give no exact rule for time of dipping—two or three minutes in the hot sirup. Then the fruit is dried again. This process makes a delicious article, and for this reason: The dried fruit, without sugar, retains all the fruit flavor; and the dipping process after the drying does not penetrate the fruit so as to destroy that fine, natural flavor, but merely adds to it the taste of the sugar crystals which are formed on the surface. It is unnecessary to say that the very best granulated sugar should be used. I might add that some con-found crystallized fruit with sweetmeats or candied fruit. As I understand the matter, the difference between them is this: For the former the fruit is dipped in the sirup after being dried, not cooked in it; while for the latter the fruit is cooked slowly and carefully in the heavy sirup, and then dried.—*Good Housekeeping.*

A RAILWAY SPRINKLER.

The opening of the new Inter-Urban line, between St. Paul and Minneapolis, has discovered the fact that outside the cities, and while traversing some six miles or more of the distance, which is beyond the pale of the water mains, on certain favorable days the dust is found to be a small and decidedly unpleasant feature of an otherwise delightful ride. To remedy this evil there is almost finished at the shops of the Minneapolis City Railway, a giant tank, made of one-eighth inch boiler-iron, and mounted on a flat-car carried on four 36-inch wheels. A piece of four-inch steam-pipe, capped at each end, and suitably perforated with small drill holes, rests across the rear platform. The connecting pipes, of the same diameter as the cross pipe, connect it with the tank and insure a bountiful supply of water. It is intended to draw the tank car behind a motor car, and by making a trip every two hours, the entire length of the line will be sprinkled in a round trip of eighty minutes.

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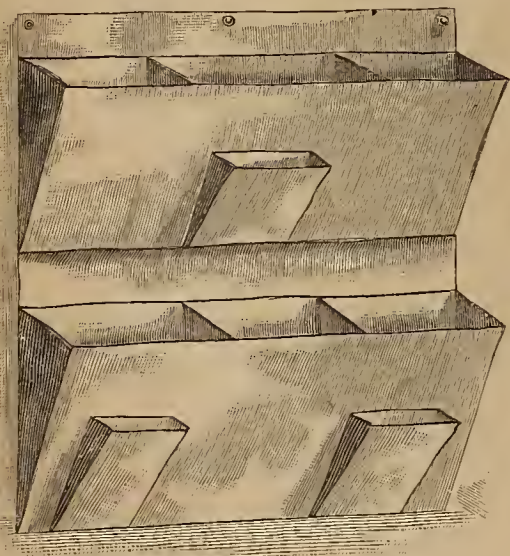
AN INDIAN LOVE SONG.

His winter home the bear forsakes,
The red deer swims the shining lakes,
Up foaming falls the salmon leaps,
The wild sheep halts on dizzy steeps,
The swans are northward flying.
With laughing voice the rivers run,
Their billows flashing in the sun;
It is the moon of sprouting grass,
A thousand warm sweet breezes pass,
Through lofty pine-tops sighing.
With bounding steps the antelope
Springs lightly down the mountain slope;
To verdant plains the bison hies,
The eagle mounts the morning skies,
And all the birds are mating.
With life and joy all things are bright,
Come forth, my love, my soul's delight,
Thy wigwam's folds throw wide apart,
For thee, oh dear and tender heart,
Thy lover true is waiting.

HOME TOPICS.

MOTHERED CHICKEN.—It seems to me something new about cooking can be learned from nearly everyone. Annie, a dusky maid from the old North state, has just taught me to cook chickens as follows: Cut up the chicken as for frying, season them with salt and pepper; then lay them in a dripping-pan and pour over them half a teacupful of sweet cream for each chicken. Set the pan in a hot oven, and baste occasionally with the cream in the pan. As soon as the chicken browns, turn the pieces over.

WASHING LACE CURTAINS.—At the time of fall house cleaning, the washing of lace curtains is an important matter. After shaking the dust out of them thoroughly, soak them over night in cold water; if very much soiled, let them soak twenty-four hours, changing the water once or twice, and putting them through the wringer from one water into another. Do not rub them on a washboard, but rub gently with the hands, pressing and squeezing mostly. Scald them, rinse, and hang on the line to dry. Do this in the morning, and after they are dry, look them over carefully and mend any places that need it. The next morning starch them in well-boiled starch, but do not make them too stiff or they will not hang in graceful folds. If you do not want them white, add strong coffee to the starch until the required shade is obtained. The best way to dry them after they are starched is to have frames, which are made like quilting-frames, the side pieces as long as the curtains, and the end pieces as long as the widest curtain, with holes and pins for shortening them to other widths. Sew white cotton around the bars of the frames, and pin the curtains to them, both ends and sides. On a bright day they will dry very quickly. They may be hung over a sheet on the line until partly dry, and then pinned to a sheet that has been previously pinned to the carpet; but the frame is much more convenient, and any man can make one in a short time. A kitchen chair set at each corner will hold the frame up if you have nothing better. Curtains washed



EMERGENCY BAG.

and dried in this way will look very nearly, if not quite as good as new.

EMERGENCY BAG.—Take a twenty-four-inch square of brown holland, furniture linen or some similar material. Take two strips of the same material, ten inches wide and twenty-four inches long. Hem or bind one long side of these pieces, put

a small pocket on one or both of them, and baste one of them at the bottom and the other an inch from the top of the square. Bind the whole all around with braid and stitch through the strips, making three different-sized pockets of each one. Now tack it on a closet door of the sitting-room or mother's bedroom. Into these pockets put a roll of old flannel, strips and pieces of flannel skirts, shirts or blankets; a roll of old linen, such as old handkerchiefs, napkins, etc.; a soft sponge, a bottle of witch-hazel extract and one of arnica, some cotton batting, a bottle of peppermint, one of camphor and one of vaseline; a roll of adhesive plaster, a pair of scissors, spool of thread, thimble and needles; some prepared mustard plasters or a box of ground mustard. You will then know

labors to get a lace slip for the baby to be worn over the satin gown? The wife of the laborer. Who dresses her child in dark flannel or merino, puts on it a large hat that shades its face, and shoes in which it can walk? The wife of the employer. Does not that point a moral? Oh, my dear women, if you would only learn the law of suitability, all life would be better and easier to live. You see I will preach. But take it as it comes—from the heart.—*Corinne.*

FALL CLEANING UP.

The *Manufacturers' Gazette* suggests to its readers that now is a capital time to prepare for winter, both inside of the mill and around the outside premises. Taking advantage of the cool, dry and clear days

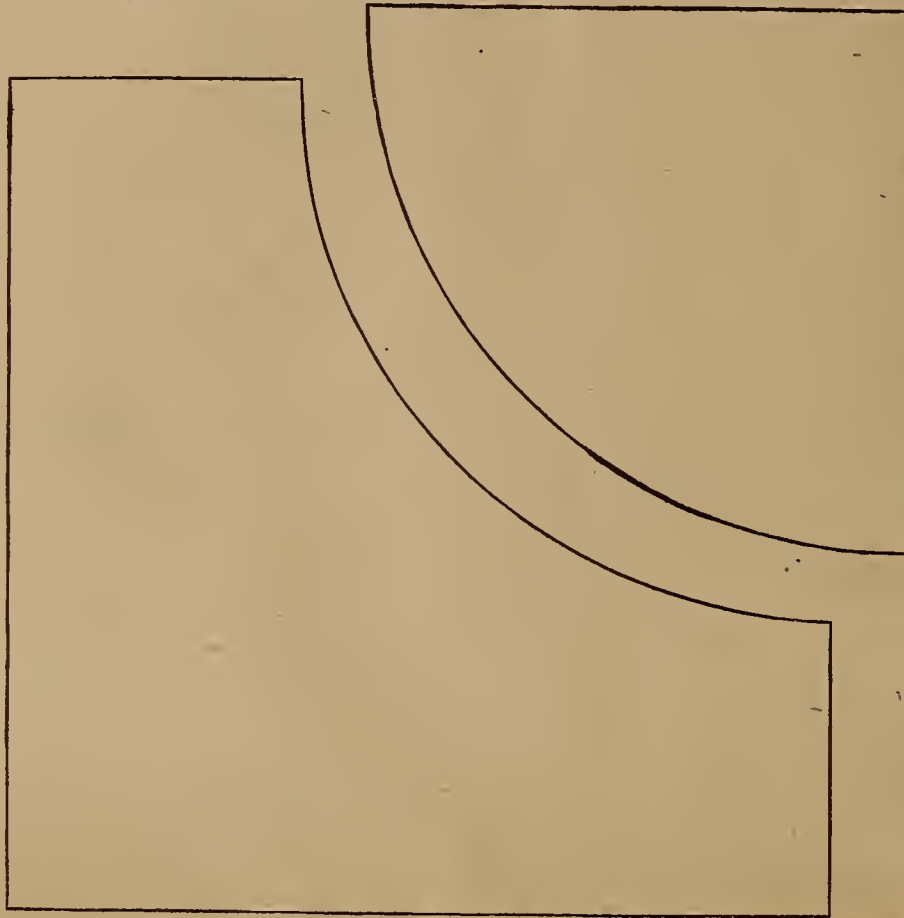


DIAGRAM FOR QUILT PATTERNS.

just where to find these articles, and no valuable time be lost when some one is hurt, or in the night, if some one has the colic, sore throat, toothache or earache. A small oil or alcohol lamp-stove is a great convenience in the latter emergencies.

MAIDA McL.

LITTLE FOLKS FASHIONS.

Little girls are kept in Kate Greenaway gowns as long as possible. The fine gingham, or rather zephyrs, used for this purpose are shorter now, in new shades of porcelain blue and pink, with alternating stripes of white. Striped gingham in gray and white, or navy-blue and white, are also much used for girls from five to eight. The suit consists of a full-gathered skirt, shirt-waist and jacket of striped gingham, with deep cuffs, belt and revers to jacket of plaid. The same design can be made up in woolen dress goods, with white silk for the plaid shirt-waist.

Another pretty suit for the fall is made of pongee-colored, plain cashmere, combined with plaid, wool goods, that has the same shade as the plain goods, barred with dull blue, green and red. The loose blouse and full sleeves are made of this plaid, with deep cuffs turned up from the hand, that have a narrow ruffle of the plain-colored cashmere around the upper edge. The skirt is of the plain cashmere, with a six-inch hem, as well as the sleeveless, long jacket, that is cut in slashes around the bottom. The loose blouse front may be sewed on the low-necked waist to which the skirt is attached, and the back of this waist can be made of what is left of the silesia, as the jacket covers the back so closely it will not be seen. Fasten the jacket at the neck with a pretty pin.

Do not be persuaded into buying an over-trimmed hat for the baby boy or girl, for, though a milliner may attempt to convince you that white feathers on white hats for small people are greatly admired, you may conclude that the stock is as bad as the milliner's taste. Large felt hats—brown, blue, olive or black—trimmed with rosettes of ribbon, are all worn by the children of the rich woman who is endeavoring to set the fashion of good taste. Who slaves and

to repaint sash, clean windows and paint up your wooden buildings, will be infinitely better than to leave things all demoralized for winter storms to beat upon. Now that the days are rapidly shortening, it will soon be that daylight will be greatly retarded by dirty windows. Put in the odd panes of glass; do a little whitewashing or painting; in fact, clean up thoroughly. Make the mill as cheery and comfortable as possible for the help during the dark, wintry days. Have your circulation piping carefully looked over and all leaky valves and joints packed, to prevent unnecessary waste of fuel. Patch up those holes and cracks in the brick-work and floors. See that all outside doors are in working order and weather-proof. Perhaps the roof will bear a little investigation and renewing in spots.

These are little things, but they require attention at the proper time, for if allowed to go loose they will count up in the aggregation of shiftlessness.

Out in the yard we may have a pile of scrap iron, odd pieces of lumber and what-not, which may be required during the winter. Gather this stuff all together and cover it up with a board roof if possible; if not, use old drier canvas. Anything is better than to have it snowed under and hunted for some night with a lamp and shovel with the thermometer around zero. Odd machinery, like pulleys, gears or pieces of shaft, should be blocked up off the ground, as when not so cared for they settle into the earth, and if not frozen down, will become badly rusted at the ground contact. Piping and fittings especially should be housed, as they are so liable to damage by lying loose outside.

FLOWER NOTES.

The cool nights remind us of the winter so near, when that unwelcome visitor, Jack Frost, will appear and nip our buds and blossoms, now filling the air with their rich perfume. How lovely they are in their summer robes! Yet they must soon fade, and only the window plants will gladden our eyes during the winter months. It is a great mistake to try to keep geraniums, fuchsias, coleus and other plants that have been bedded out all summer for window plants. If window plants are desired, take good, strong cut-

tings from the large plants, root them and set in your windows for winter pleasure. Let the old plants die; or, if you want them for next season, pull them up, set in a box of sand close together, and keep in a cool cellar until spring; then bring out to the light, and water, and they will start new branches and soon bloom. Geraniums and fuchsias do nicely kept in this way, but coleus are too tender.

Last spring I received a great many letters asking how I cultivate the Chinese lily. I answered all who gave their address, but some failed to give their names, so I would like to answer through the FARM AND FIRESIDE.

We get our bulbs fresh from China, in baskets of thirty bulbs, all weighing from six to eight ounces each. As soon as received they are set in six-inch pots of rich garden soil, being covered about half with the soil, then set in the cellar with a board laid on top of the pots after they are well watered. The bulbs are so strong they will start their roots in a day or two, which will grow so fast and strong as to push the bulb out of the pot unless covered with something heavy. They will require watering only once a week. In three weeks a pot may be set in a sunny window and given plenty of water, so the saucer under the pot will always be full. By setting several bulbs, and bringing them up from the cellar every ten days or two weeks, one at a time, these lovely flowers may be had in bloom the whole winter.

When through blooming, cut off the tops and return the pot to the cellar to ripen the bulb, which will require two or three months; then the bulbs can be put into paper bags and hung up until time to pot again. Bulbs that have bloomed once never produce as many or as good flowers again.

The Chinese lily is often grown in bowls of water and sand. I have grown them both ways, and find I have more and better flowers, and that they last longer when potted in rich garden soil than when grown in water. I believe this answers all questions. FRANCIS.

COUNTY FAIRS.

Having recently experienced a winter at the county fair, I feel full of the subject, especially as I served on an awarding committee. I will speak only of the art department, as that is in my line of work, and leave some one else to discuss the horses, the poultry, the cakes and the jellies.

Under the head of domestic art were included knitting, sewing, weaving, crocheting, taxidermy, and every possible description of fancy work. Rags, quilts, comforts, aprons, napkins, hoods, stockings, pillow-cases, foot-stools, pin-



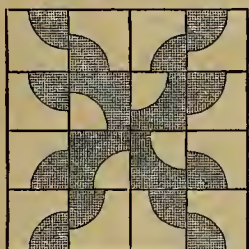
LITTLE GIRL'S DRESS.

cushions, wall banners and a hundred other things were hung up, higgledy-piggledy.

The work was mostly very well done; but the effect was confusing, and the duties of the awarding committee were made very laborious by the fact that specimens of the same kind of work were scattered all over the hall. When we looked in our books for, say the "A"

handkerchief," we found that there had been five or six entries. Each of us taking the numbers indicated in the entry-book, began our search. Up and down, high and low, we looked for those half-dozen handkerchiefs; and when found, we must either collect them together to compare their merits, or judge by quickly going from one to another. Any one can see that the business would be simplified by having all things of the same kind placed together.

The premiums do not seem to vary according to the value of the work; at least, such was the case in our county. The premium for the best knit bedspread was one dollar, and for the best moss mat was one dollar. Certainly some unsophisticated man must have made that distribution, which any woman would reject in an instant as being unjust. The



SQUARE FOR QUILT PATTERN.

best quilt gets only one dollar, and the best handkerchief gets the same. I know how many hours it takes to make a beautiful knit stocking, for I have watched my dearest relative make them. They represent so much patience and dexterity. The premium is fifty cents.

From my experience, therefore, I would advise two changes in the art department: an orderly arrangement of the articles displayed and a more appropriate scale of premiums.

After the premiums are awarded, there is often dissatisfaction. The judges are always anxious to do the right thing, but many complications arise. Often the merits of several articles seem so nearly equal that a decision must be made by the toss of a penny, or some other method of lot. There are certain rules which the exhibitors are expected to observe. They are supposed to display their own handwork; "no article purchased in a store, made in a factory or out of the family can compete." This rule is not always observed, and when violated, the articles are not to be noticed.

Another rule is that "no article shall be entered for a premium if it has previously taken one." If you enter an article that has been displayed before—in a collection, but not for a separate premium—you had better write that fact on your entry tag. One of the judges may remember that on a thing has been at the fair before, and may think you are violating rules.

The judges of the fine arts had their deliberations also. They vowed that they were strictly conscientious; but some unsuccessful exhibitors accused them of partiality, and called them, with irony, a "discriminating committee!" Such things will happen. If one of the judges has a friend among the exhibitors, it is human nature to show that friend as kindly a criticism as possible. I should not blame such behavior. I believe in nepotism. That is, merit being very nearly equal, I believe in favoring one's friends, and if ever I get in a position to bestow patronage, I shall be good to those whom I love, and who have been good to me.

At one of our best Ohio fairs, where four counties join, the judge of the art department is always employed from a distance and paid ten dollars a day for her services, which are warranted to be truly discriminating and free from partiality.

There is no reason why county fairs should not be made excellent in all departments and means of education. Our art hall was creditable this year. There was a fine display of inlaid work, by a Mr. Noelp, that for taste and skill could not be surpassed. The paintings and crayons were unusually good. Two ladies displayed china of their own decoration which, ten years ago, would have been a beautiful curiosity in a national exhibition. It can no longer be said that only trash finds its way to the art department of the county fair.

In the needlework department it seems only fair to take taste into account, as well as neatness and amount of work. In combining colors and selecting designs there is room for improvement in the quilts, rugs and embroideries.

KATE KAUFFMAN.

DON'T TAKE ANY CHANCES with a Stubborn Cold, but get rid of it rationally with the help of Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, a healing medicine for the Lungs.

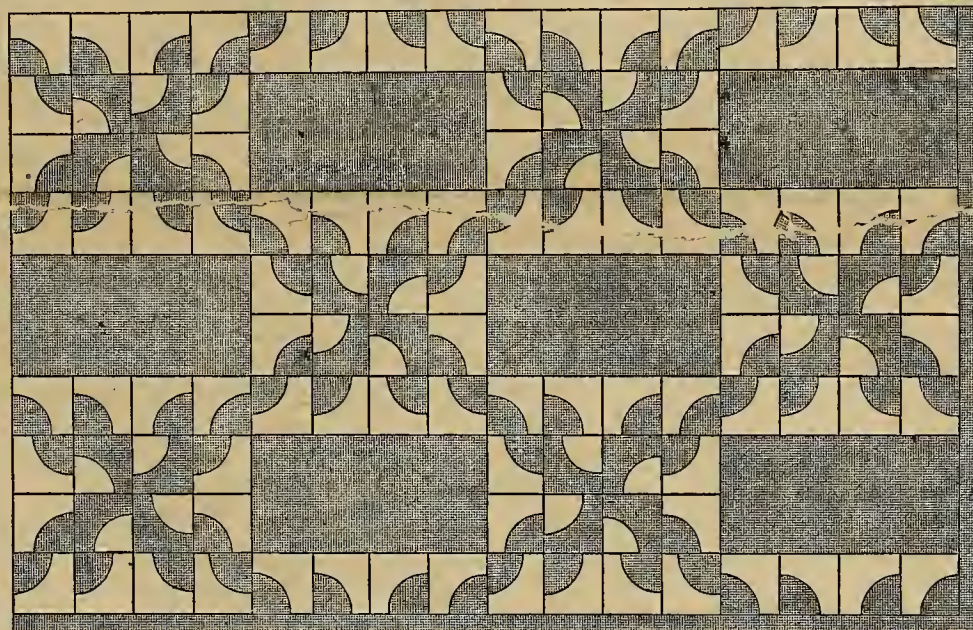
DRESS NOTES FROM OUR EXCHANGES.

A writer in *Arthur's Home Magazine* tells the following: "Where do you get such stylish ways of making up your dresses?" was asked of a woman who contrives to make a small income produce excellent results for herself and family in the matter of clothes. "I'll tell you," she answered; "I study the windows of first-class cleaners and dyers. In them are hung, from time to time, to display the renovator's skill, most beautiful imported garments. I look closely and profit, and have in this way many times evolved effects which have been commented on as you have just done. It is the valuable gowns and jackets that are worth the expense of cleaning, and one thus gets a glimpse of dresses that are worth copying."

Cloth grounds in dull check effects in marine-blue, bluish-gray and bronze are among the most salable stuffs for ulsters this fall. The dull, barely visible checks are formed by very small stripes. With a few lines skillfully arranged are obtained effects which have made these goods great favorites. Large and small checks are equally represented.

A very handsome Venetian openwork embroidery in dark silks and bronze-gold or copper metal cord will be used in the autumn for trimming cloth, cashmere and vigogne dresses. On rich cream-yellow or white gowns of drap d'ete or nun's cloth for elegant tea-gowns or Grecian evening dresses, this openwork trimming in gold, with delicate tints of pink, lilac or green, is peculiarly effective and beautiful.

No woman's toilet is complete without a rainy-day gown. One of the most serviceable is made of good English broadcloth of a dark shade. The firm surface of this goods is almost impervious to rain, and even the stickiest quality of street mud can be brushed off when dry, leaving



QUILT PATTERN.—THIS CAN BE USED EITHER IN SILK AND VELVET, OR WOOL.

hardly a perceptible trace behind. Dark green is the most serviceable shade for such a costume.

The flounce around the bodice begins to grow a trifle wearisome, and a girdle of ribbon or a band of lace is often considered a sufficient finish.

Dainty waists of nun's gray China silk are made with bias fronts laid in soft folds from the shoulders. The edges do not quite meet in the neck, but form a slender V, which is edged with a delicate gray chiffon frill. The back has fan folds from the neck to the waist, and the full Bishop sleeves are gathered to a band of the gray silk that is thorn-stitched in white or gray silk and finished with very narrow frills of chiffon.

Striking garments look very well in their place—in a carriage or on the beach—but out of their place they look vulgar, and shows that the woman who wears a garment out of its place is ignorant of its use.

Little girls, from three to eight years of age, wear low-necked dresses over white guimps. These dresses are made of cashmere, percale, gingham, nainsook or wash silk. The round waist is either gathered or plaited, with or without a belt, and the half low neck is edged with a wide frill of embroidery, which falls over the short waist. Usually these dresses are made without sleeves, and are finished with a frill of embroidery, like that used for the neck.

A blouse or waist is especially elegant under an open jacket, with a skirt of the

jacket material. About the waist could be worn a girdle, composed of a much-wrinkled width of China silk, crepe de chine, surah, taffeta or gingham. The girdle material is gathered across each end and bound, and upon the bindings, which are four inches long, are set hooks and eyes to fasten the girdle at the back beneath the jacket. If the jacket is not worn, a bow of loops and ends matching the girdle is pinned over the closing. The girdle must not be drawn so tightly as to render the folds stiff and ungraceful.

Oh, yet we trust that somehow good
Will be the final goal of life,
To pangs of nature, sins of will,
Defects of doubt and taints of blood;
That nothing walks with aimless feet;
That not one life shall be destroyed,
Or cast as rubbish to the void,
When God hath made the pile complete.

—Tennyson.

Cornflower-blue is fast becoming the popular English color for day dresses. An elaborate outdoor gown at a Kensington shop was made of cornflower-blue corduroy cloth, outlined with biscuit-color. It had a plain habit skirt, bordered at the extreme edge with a band of biscuit-colored cloth, and was built on a foundation of shot-silk, with a silk ruche around the hem. The bodice, in point of style, was a combination of the Newmarket and the cavalier coat. It was double-breasted, and had deep gauntlet cuffs and wide lapels. The newest French skirt, by the way, has only one seam. If it is well cut it hangs more gracefully than an ordinary skirt.

FRUITS FOR BREAKFAST.

In southern climes where luscious fruitage flourishes freely, the inhabitants live to a great extent upon fruits and vegetable food, which gives them a splendid physical development. Much has been written of late upon the value of fresh

them served in a thin crystal tumbler, with ice-water.

The grape-fruit, or shaddock, is growing in favor as a breakfast fruit. Its acid and slightly bitter flavor serves to quench thirst, and it is recommended as a remedy for biliousness. The shaddock is preferably served, like the orange, cut in half across the sections and eaten with an orange-spoon or teaspoon, scooping out the pulp and juice from the transversely divided hemisphere.

Pears and cream are a satisfactory breakfast dish. Peel and slice ripe, mellow pears and sprinkle with powdered sugar. Just before sending to the table pour whipped cream over and serve at once. Bananas can be served for breakfast, sliced, with powdered sugar and cream; or, bananas and oranges sliced together in the proportion of one large orange to six bananas.

Ambrosia is another rich preparation of mixed fruits. To prepare it, slice pineapple very thin, or pick it apart from the center into shreds with a fork, sprinkle it thickly with sugar and cover the top with grated cocoanut.

An especially wholesome dish, greatly esteemed among our rural population, is old-fashioned huckleberries and milk. Crumble some crackers, or a roll and a half, into a quart bowl, fill it with rich, new milk, or milk and cream, "half and half." Pour half a cupful of huckleberries into the bowl and stir the contents together. The huckleberry, which grows so plentifully on our hillsides and mountain clearings, is a pleasant but not highly flavored fruit, and containing but little acid, needs but little sugar, and is palatable with milk even without sweetening. When fully ripe a pint of fruit needs but two tablespoonfuls of sugar to satisfy the sweetest tooth. —*Demorest Monthly*.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

ARTIFICIAL MAPLE SIRUP.—Flavor to taste, a sirup of granulated sugar with tea made from hickory bark.

TO PICKLE MARTYRIA'S.—Mrs. B. Liberal, Kan. Pick them when about the size of a mouse. Place in weak salt water over night; then next morning transfer to weak vinegar, and let them get hot; then pack in your jars, and pour over them spiced, sweetened vinegar. Use cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg.

TO REMOVE TAN FROM THE HANDS.—A. M. S. Wash the hands in lemon juices, and wear half-handers made of a thick woolen stocking when out in the sun or wind.

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Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE END OF THE WAY.

My life is a wearisome journey,
I'm sick with the dust and the heat;
The rays of the sun beat upon me,
The briars are wounding my feet;
But the city to which I am traveling
Will more than my trials repay—
All the toils of the road will seem nothing
When I get to the end of the way.

There are so many hills to climb upward,
That I often am longing to rest;
But He who appoints me my pathway
Knows just what is needful and best.
I know in his "Word" he has promised,
That my "strength shall be as my day"—
And the toils of the road will seem nothing,
When I get to the end of the way.

When the last feeble step has been taken,
And the gates of the city appear—
And the beautiful songs of the angels
Float out on my listening ear—
Then all that now seems so mysterious
Will be plain and clear as the day—
Yes, the toils of the road will seem nothing,
When I get to the end of the way.

Cooling fountains are there for the thirsty;
There are cordials for those who are faint;
There are robes that are whiter and purer
Than any that fancy can paint.
Then—I'll try to press hopefully onward,
Thinking often, through each weary day—
The toils of the road will seem nothing,
When I get to the end of the way.

—Sel. by J. E. Sebring.

THE THREE IN BIBLICAL HISTORY.

NUMBER three is the first odd number, and occurs in all religious writings with striking frequency. God is triune, the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost. There are some who find a trinity throughout nature, as St. Patrick did in the shamrock. The triune plan of creation is seen in the earth, sea and air; the sun, moon and stars; the fish, birds and beasts; in the animal, mineral and vegetable kingdoms; in future, past and present time.

There have been three dispensations of truth—the patriarchal, the Jewish and the Christians. Adam and Noah each had three sons. There were three great patriarchs—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The commandments were delivered on the third day. The length of Solomon's temple was three times its breadth. Elijah stretched himself three times upon the widow's child before bringing him to life. David bowed three times before Jonathan. Jonah was in the whale's interior three days.

Three wise men came from the east to adore the infant Savior, bringing with them three offerings. The child was found after three days in the temple. Three apostles were with the Savior at the transfiguration and three in the Garden of Olives. Peter was asked three times, "Lovest thou me?" and denied his master three times. Our Lord found the disciples sleeping three times in the garden. He was nailed to the cross three hours and rose again on the third day.—*Chicago Herald.*

A MOTHER'S CARE.

"We were very, very poor," said a now wealthy business man, talking of his early life, "but it never seemed to us children that we were poor, because our mother always seemed happy with us. She was constantly planning some little pleasure for us that was all her own, and we thought we had the nicest time at home of any children we knew. It was making for us little rabbits or birds out of bread dough, or turn-over pies in fruit season, or some little thing to give us pleasure and show how much she thought of us continually. Then she was always encouraging us to look for better days, and always hopeful herself for the great things her children were going to do for her when they grew up to be good and useful men. We went to school barefooted, and carried with us our dinner, often very humble fare, but it was always wrapped up in a clean, white bit of cloth, so that it might look attractive; and one of the most touching recollections of my childhood is of seeing my dear mother patiently washing and ironing those bits of cloth for our school lunches."

When that mother, in after years, was suddenly stricken with fatal sickness, a special train took two of those stalwart sons, with all the dispatch that money

and influence could buy, to that mother's bedside to receive the parting blessing and witness her dying smile. Such a place, such a kingdom in the hearts of her children, is worth any mother's toil and care and weariness to win.

WILL CHRIST COME AGAIN?

Is there any necessity for his coming? I say, "No, if the present theology be true, that death transports us to glory; gives us eternal life; frees us from all pain, sorrow and labor, and carries us beyond the bounds of time and space."

That is too far off—beyond any place that God has ever promised. What a comfort to think that we have such a good devil to do so much for us! I do not know what the poor saints would do if there were no death to carry them to glory.

Well, this is all a grand piece of deception from that old liar, the devil. Jesus says, "He is a liar and the father of lies." I do wish all such teachers of this kind of theology would throw it to the winds, and back to the devil whence it came, and give the honor to Christ, where it belongs; for he is the life-giver, and that he bestows on his saints when he comes the second time, and not at death.

The second coming of Christ is of all importance. There will be no waking up of the dead if he comes not; and if the dead rise not then we all perish, so says Paul. Please read I Cor., 15th chapter, and see if the devil is not a liar when he says we are rewarded at death. If our Lord does not come back again, creation will never cease her groans, and the enemy, death, will never cease his cruel work.

Jesus is coming to destroy "death and him that hath the power of death, that is, the devil," and restore back to the saints their inheritance. There is no promise in the Bible that saints go to heaven when they die, or to any place except *sheol*, the state of death. What we are contending for is good, sound, Bible truth. We are commanded "to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints." This we are doing.

WHAT NEXT?

A gentleman overtook a well-dressed young man and invited him to a seat in his carriage.

"What," said the gentleman to the young stranger, "are your plans for the future?"

"I am a clerk," replied the young man, "and my hope is to succeed and get into business for myself."

"And what next?" said the gentleman. "Why, I intend to marry and set up an establishment of my own," said the youth.

"And what next?" "Why, to continue in business and accumulate wealth."

"And what next?" "It is the lot of all to die, and I, of course, cannot escape," replied the young man.

"And what next?" once more asked the gentleman.

But the young man had no answer to make; he had no purpose that reached beyond the present life. How many young men are in precisely the same condition?

DISILLUSIONS.

During his days of youthful enthusiasm every man promises himself a career of perfect happiness, of stainless respectability, of matchless honor. We flatter ourselves that the world will reform itself for our sake. We anticipate a faultless partner in our future bride, and cheat ourselves with the expectation that the even current of destinies will flow over sands of gold! Alas! the first self-deception we are compelled to resign becomes a bitter trial to our fortitude; but, one after another, we see these cherished visions fade away—we inure ourselves to the degree of mediocrity which is our allotted portion—and, finally, learn to be contented with such scraps as the charity of fortune throws in our way.

LOW RATE HARVEST EXCURSIONS.

The Missouri Pacific Railway and Iron Mountain Route will run a series of low rate, Harvest Excursions to Southwest Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Texas and all points West and Southwest, September 15th and 29th. Tickets good for thirty days to return with stop-over privileges for the inspection of land. Further information furnished by N. R. Warwick, Agent, 131 Vine St., Cincinnati, Ohio, or H. C. Townsend, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, St. Louis, Mo.

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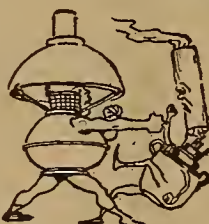
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Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

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THE COST OF POULTRY.

REPEATED experiments show that the cost of a pound of poultry is not over six cents, when food is fed liberally and of the best quality, and five cents is nearer the average cost. This cost is only for food, however. There are other expenses to be added, such as the interest on capital, labor, etc.; but the real outlay, in order to produce a five-pound fowl, should not be over twenty-five cents for food. Just what profit to expect depends upon the prices obtained, and it is a matter for each one who is interested to calculate for himself.

Many persons make the mistake of placing all the anticipated expense on the food. The heaviest expenso, if large numbers are kept, is the labor, as it is an item that must be paid for, whether the owner does the work himself or employs an assistant. There are also other expenses, such as the occupancy of the land, the cost of the buildings, fences, appliances, and the keeping of the same in repair. At certain periods the hens will be unproductive, especially when sitting or moulting, and even the mode of feeding may influence the cost of the eggs by failing to manage in a manner so as to keep the hens in good laying condition. The expenses of shipping, dressing and commissions all enter into the whole, and affect the profits to a certain extent.

Much depends on the first cost of the chick. In the winter, when eggs are high, each chick will cost three cents before it comes out of the shell, if each egg produces a chick, which is not probable, for it may so happen that in order to secure a chick it may require three eggs, a large number often proving infertile. If 100 chicks are hatched, each costing nine cents for eggs, the cost of each chick will be eighteen cents should one half of them die. Such mortality may not occur; nevertheless it is possible, and hence it is plain that the first cost of the chick depends on the price of the eggs used for incubation, the number of eggs proving fertile and the number of chicks raised after they are hatched.

When we state that a pound of poultry should not exceed six cents for feed, the total cost of the first pound, allowing twelve cents for cost of eggs and losses of chicks, will be eighteen cents. The chicks will not be so liable to loss after they weigh a pound; hence an additional six cents for the second pound, which, added to the first, brings the cost to twenty-four cents, or twelve cents per pound. Hence, the more rapid the growth, and the larger the chick, the cheaper the cost, as the greatest risk is when the chick is very young.

In connection with the cost, then, is the matter of using some breed that grows rapidly, and which will attain the greatest weight in the shortest time on a certain proportion of food. The common fowl will not serve the purpose at all, but the hens of the common breeds may be mated with Brahma, Plymouth Rock or Wyandotte males, and if then a selection of the best pullets be made, and pure-bred males used, there will be a further improvement. The proper mode, however, is to procure some pure breeds and keep off from mongrels, as it is cheaper to begin with pure breeds than it is to grade up, a process which takes too much time.

LET YOUR HENS SIT.

The best results are obtained from hens that are allowed to sit than when they are prevented from incubating. When the hen goes on her nest to sit she does so for the purpose of using the fat of her body to impart heat to the eggs, and as she seldom leaves the nest to feed, she becomes reduced in flesh by the time the eggs are hatched. She also secures rest and recuperates. As a rule, a sitting hen is nearly always fat, and to prevent her from sitting simply keeps her in a condition unfavorable to laying. There are times, however, when no chicks are desired. In such cases, let the hen go on the nest, giving her a few porcelain eggs. Do not break her from sitting, as she will soon become broody again, and will lay

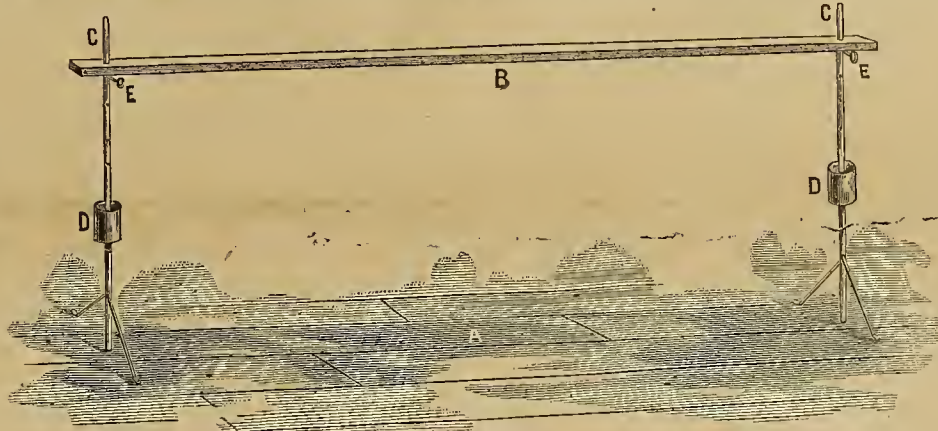
but few eggs before going on the nest the second time, but if kept on the nest for two or three weeks, and then "broken up," she will come off in excellent condition for laying, and will lay more eggs than she would have done if prevented from sitting, including the time lost in incubation, and she will not become broody until she is in a fat condition again.

HIGH ROOSTS.

High roosts are an abomination. The large, heavy hens can only reach the high roosts with difficulty, and they are liable to be dislodged from their position, thrown off and injured by the fall. Make the roosts low—a foot from the floor being sufficiently high—and have all the roosts on a level, instead of making them step-like; that is, one higher than the other. Bumble-foot, lameness of the joints and other ailments are often due to high roosts, and it is to their seeking lofty perches that young turkeys are usually affected with swollen feet and legs. It is really doubtful if roosts are at all necessary in a poultry-house, as those who have tried the plan of providing litter for the hens, and cleaning it away daily, report that the hens keep in much better condition, being less liable to draughts of air, and are seldom lame. It is an experiment worthy of a trial, as the removal of the roosts will render the interior of a poultry-house more roomy and convenient.

LICE-PROOF ROOST.

A roost that serves to protect the fowls from lice is shown in the illustration, in which A is the floor, B the roost (made of 2x3 scantling) and C C iron rods or wooden posts, as preferred. Half-inch iron rods are better, as an old fruit-can may be attached (see D D) by being soldered to the rods, the tops of the cans



LICE-PROOF ROOST.

being open. These cups are kept half full of coal-oil or crude petroleum. The rods are made to pass through the ends of the roost, and the roosts may be raised or lowered by moving an iron peg (E E), a few holes being drilled in the rod for that purpose, or the roost may be lifted off when necessary. The roost should not touch the walls of the house. The roost is a protection against lice, and may itself receive an application of coal-oil occasionally. It may be of any length desired, and should not be very high, as the lower the roost the better for the birds in jumping on or off. It will save our readers much hard work and annoyance in summer.

BREEDS FOR LAYING.

The breeds that lay the greatest number of eggs in a year could not well be named, as a breed that may do well in one section, and in the hands of one who understands how to manage, may utterly fail under some other person's control. All the breeds are favorites with those who have their selected kinds, and any attempt on our part to claim that a breed was more meritorious than the others would result in a strong protest from those having different breeds from the one chosen. If records could be given of the largest number of eggs secured from a great many flocks, it is safe to state that each breed would be found to have excelled and also to have failed. Make your choice of a breed, and you will find it to have its drawbacks and its advantages.

It is an impossibility to secure what you want, except at some sacrifice in another direction. The climate must be considered, as there are breeds that will endure a severe winter, while others will give excellent results from spring until the fall.

THE INCUBATOR.

The incubator must not be delayed if you expect to use one. Hatching should begin in November, and may extend until April, but the earlier now the better, if high-priced broilers are to go on the market, as they often bring seventy-five cents each during March, April and May, while in June and July the larger sizes also bring good prices. The main point here is to urge the importance of beginning early. Even if only to experiment, it will not be lost hours with the operation of an incubator, for the "old hen" will not sit at a time when you wish her to do so.

THE MINORCAS.

The Minorcas are still one of the most valuable egg producers, and lay equal to any breed known. They are non-sitters, and rival the Leghorns in every respect, as well as being larger. They lay very large eggs, at one time a lot averaging six to the pound being exhibited at Chicago by Mr. F. A. Mortimer, of Pottsville, Pa., who sent them that distance in order that the farmers might notice the difference between the large eggs of the Minorca and those of the common fowls. The Black Minorca is the favorite, and in England they hold a very high position.

FEEDING USELESS BIRDS.

There is an enormous waste of food in keeping males and unprofitable hens. A good manager will endeavor to know what his hens are doing, and each individual should be observed, if possible, in order to be able to allow only the most profitable to remain. Males are of no use except when it is desired to hatch chicks, and as a flock consisting of one male and a dozen hens should produce all the chicks desired, it is a waste of food and labor to allow more males to remain than

are necessary. Males that bring twenty cents a pound when four months old will sell for only seven cents a pound when fully matured, and any surplus number only occupies space in the poultry-house and on the roost that should be occupied by hens. Feeding grain to males is not only a useless expense, but it makes them fat, in which condition they injure the hens, many cases of lameness of the hens being due to their being on the runs with the males. A general culling out should be in order, as a reduction before the winter sets in will be an advantage.

CUTTING THE WINGS.

We have been repeatedly asked if cutting the wings will in any manner interfere with laying. If it becomes necessary to clip a wing, the only effect will be to render the hen less attractive in appearance. If the quills are pulled out new ones will appear, but if they are cut with shears the feathers will not be renewed until the next period of moulting.

BREEDING DUCKS.

The ducks for next year's laying, to be used as breeders, should be selected from the flock now, and the culls sold. As a duck will lay about 150 eggs, but a few are necessary for supplying all the eggs needed for hatching. A drake and five ducks make about a fair proportion, but two drakes and ten ducks may be kept in one flock if preferred.

NEW BREEDS.

Do not take any chances with new breeds as long as the old, reliable kinds give good results, unless you know something of them, as many new breeds are simply crosses that do not breed uniformly. New breeds are easily made, but difficult to establish, as it requires years of careful selection to fix the characteristics of a breed.

TARRED PAPER FOR ROOFING.

In using tarred felt for roofing the poultry-house, it is important that a coating of gas-tar, or some such paint, be applied as soon as the paper is put on. This is a matter frequently neglected, and the consequence is that the paper is more liable to be injured by strong winds. The gas-tar should be applied every six months until the roof is two years old. After that time it will be a thick roof, and as hard as tin, lasting for many years, and effectually keeping out cold and dampness. It only requires a little extra care for the first two years, when it can be left to do service, and it will prove to be as cheap and durable as any roof that can be made.

POULTRY DEPARTMENTS.

Farmers should visit the poultry departments of the fairs and note the breeds. Those who have given the breeds of poultry but little attention will find that there is much difference in them, and that it will be an advantage to use choice breeds, instead of mongrels, if a profit is expected to be made from poultry.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Overfeeding.—W. G., Egypt, Wash., writes: "Our chickens are dying, and the cause is enlargement of the liver to three or four times its natural size, with fatty spots. What is the cause?"

REPLY:—It is due to overfeeding, especially of grain, resulting in fatty degeneracy of the liver and heart.

Limber-neck.—S. J. R., Timmons, Tenn., writes: "There is a disease in this section known as 'limber-neck,' and it is more fatal than cholera."

REPLY:—You should have described it. At this season nearly all such difficulties may be traced to the large, gray lice that prey on the heads and necks.

Roup.—L. C., Sewickley, Pa., writes: "I have a chick that seems to be wasting away. It breathes very hard. It has no swelled head, and has been this way for a month."

REPLY:—Probably roup in some form; being a constitutional disease, and the chick being of no value, it should be destroyed, though lice, or exposure to draughts in rainy weather, may have had some effect also.

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the querist should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Best Grass for Nebraska.—E. L. Nepoone, Neb., says that red-top is one of the best pasture grasses for Nebraska, and that it should be sown in the spring, just before a rain, if possible.

Planting Onions in Fall.—W. H. P. Hamilton, Ill., writes: "Would it be advisable to set out Red Wethersfield and White Portugal onion sets this fall on a well-drained piece of ground?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—No. Plant in early spring. If you wish to try fall planting with any kind of onion, set the Extra Early Pearl, to be had of Johnson & Stokes, or Landreth, of Philadelphia.

Smoke Injurious to Potato Germs.—L. S. M. Ubet, Mout., writes: "If potatoes are stored in a close root-house, and a fire is built in the root-house, leaving no place for the smoke to escape, will the smoke destroy the vitality of the potatoes?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—The result of complete combustion, carbonic acid, I believe, is not injurious to plant life. When oxygen, however, has not free enough access to the fire, as is rather the rule, the result of the incomplete combustion is carbonic oxide, C. O. How destructive this can be to plant life was shown me in a very marked instance this spring. In this vicinity is a brick-yard. At one time this spring a long, steady wind drove the smoke from the furnaces in a dense, black cloud, and for about two days, along the ground and through a lining of oak and other trees near the creek bank. This scorched and killed the foliage as completely as if a big fire had been built directly under the trees. Even evergreens a quarter of a mile from the furnaces, but in a line of that wind, were damaged by the deadly gas. Whether potatoes under the circumstances as described by inquirer would lose their power of germination or not, I cannot say. But it would at least not be safe to treat them as suggested.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers. Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the querist should enclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 35 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

A CONTRIBUTION TO VETERINARY PATHOLOGY.

COLUMBIA, MO., Sept. 1, 1891.

DR. H. J. DETMERS, Columbus, O. Dear Sir:—I held a post-mortem examination upon a horse that had died from colic last week, and found an aneurism in the anterior mesenteric artery, together with several fine specimens of the worms, *Sclerostomum equinum*, Rud. The horse had been subject to attacks of colic for a year or so, the attack coming on once in about two months. On one intestinal artery there was a large clot or patch of coagulated blood, 4x6 inches, extending into the surrounding tissue on both sides of the artery. Hoping you will be able to understand this, will close. Pardon me for bothering you, but I thought maybe you were still collecting data concerning this parasite.

Respectfully submitted,
CHAS. P. FOX.

The above letter, written by one of my former students, now an assistant professor in the University of Missouri, is of considerable interest, in so far as it demonstrates that colic not only can be, but is caused by an aneurism in the anterior mesenteric artery, and a subsequent closing of an intestinal artery by embolism. Further comment will not be necessary, except that observations like that communicated above are of great value in promoting our knowledge of veterinary pathology.

Warts.—S. H. G., Rogers, Ark., and J. D., Kirby, Wis. Inquiries concerning warts have been answered in nearly every number of FARM AND FIRESIDE. Please consult recent numbers.

Probably Ringworm.—J. E. B., Otsego, O., writes: "Our cows have a kind of scab on their heads. It comes in a kind of a wart and spreads into a white-looking scab. There are others in the neighborhood that have the same. Is it a disease, and what is the remedy?"

ANSWER:—Consult recent numbers of FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Supposed Hollow-horn.—E. H. W., Kingsley, Fla. As repeatedly stated in these columns, there is no disease to which the term, "hollow-horn," might be justly applied. Old errors and superstitions, though, die hard. At present the term is often used by ignorant persons when attempting to show their knowledge, to hide their ignorance. Your calf, probably, suffered from indigestion, or, at least, from some digestive disorder.

An Affection of the Bladder.—R. C., Beulah, Kan., writes: "I would like to know what to do for a cow that is out of order. She is bothered in discharging her water. She appears to be in pain and has to strain. She does not appear to be bound up, for her nature is as soft as the other cows. She eats and drinks well."

ANSWER:—Your cow, it seems, suffers from some disorder of the bladder, but whether it is an accumulation of so-called gravel, a stone, chronic inflammation, a stricture, etc., can only be determined by a careful local examination.

A Paralytic Cow.—Mrs. J. D., Kirby, Wis., writes: "What is the cause of a young cow in good flesh not having the use of her hind parts? She is five years old, and will drop her calf in October."

ANSWER:—As to your young cow that has lost the use of her hind parts, I cannot give any advice, because the simple statement that she has lost the use, etc., does not indicate the cause of the paralysis, and does not convey any idea as to the degree of the affection. If the paralysis is perfect, the case is hopeless. If it is not, everything will depend upon whether the cause or causes can be removed or not.

Enlarged Pastern-joint.—R. E. D., Doyal, Tenn., writes: "My mule colt by some means got one of its ankles hurt, about a month ago. It either got kicked by the mare or got fastened in the stable. The ankle became enlarged and is very hard. What treatment should I give to remove the enlargement?"

ANSWER:—You may be right as to the cause of the enlargement of the pastern-joint, but it is more probable that you are mistaken, and that what you complain of is a case of arthritis, unless you have seen and positively know that the young animal was kicked. You may succeed in somewhat reducing the enlargement either by judicious bandaging with bandages of woolen flannel, or by repeated application of tincture of iodine or of gray mercurial ointment.

Incipient Elephantiasis.—J. C., Gagetown, Mich., describes a case of incipient elephantiasis in a colt six months old. You may be able to effect a reduction of the swelling by applications of iodine preparations; for instance, an ointment of iodide of potassium, 1 to 8, or of gray mercurial ointment. Either preparation may be rubbed in once a day; but if the gray mercurial ointment is chosen, the quantity rubbed in at a time must be very limited; otherwise, mercurial poisoning may result. The best treatment, however, probably consists in a judicious application of bandages of woolen flannel, provided, of course, the shape of the swollen parts is such as to make it possible to keep the bandage in place. The bandaging must be commenced at the hoof, and the bandage must be renewed at least twice a day. A complete restoration to a normal condition is probably out of the question.

Laminitis.—M. N. T., Kewanee, Wis. Cases of founder or laminitis, unless very mild, can be expected to terminate in perfect recovery only if rationally treated while yet in the first stage, consequently within two or three days. On the third and fourth days an organization of the deposited exudates is taking place, and as soon as this happens, a permanent deformation of the hoof, so-called Keraphyllocele, will be the result. The treatment of founder or laminitis depends upon the severity of the case. Its object is to reduce the congestion and subsequent inflammation in the feet, and is best left to a good veterinarian, able to decide what is and what is not necessary in a case. If bleeding is deemed necessary, it should never be done in the foot, because it would require a wounding of the sole, something that has to be avoided. The jugular vein is the easiest of access, and, therefore, invariably preferred.

Wants Medical Treatment.—E. W., Hazel Dell, Ill., writes: "I have a colt three years old last June that has a small curb on both hind legs. His legs seem weak. They are just coming, or have not been there long. Would you give some form of medical treatment? The horse will not be compelled to work. I saw some time ago an answer given for curb, but no medical treatment, and that is what I want."

ANSWER:—You seem, like a good many people, to prefer medicines to a good, rational, hygienic treatment, notwithstanding that the latter, as a rule, is more effective and never attended with evil consequences. If you desire to apply medicines, you may procure from a druggist an ointment composed of biniodide of mercury, one part, and lard, sixteen parts, and rub it in once every three or four days.

Snake-bitten.—J. B., Wesley, Tex., writes: "What is good for a snake-bite? My mare was bitten about two months ago. The swelling in her leg went up to her bag. She has a colt four months old. About four days ago she got very lame again, and now her ankle is swollen very bad and it has extended up to her bag. What would you advise me to do for her?"

ANSWER:—Unless you have seen that the mare was bitten by a snake, I must confess I have my doubts in regard to the correctness of your diagnosis. Still, you may be right, although the case as described looks to me like one of lymphangitis and incipient elephantiasis. In those comparatively few cases of real and undoubted snake-bite I have had to deal with, I have found a subcutaneous injection of tincture of iodine, if applied as soon as possible, an effective remedy. At any rate, it apparently saved the life of the animal. If horses or cattle are bitten by snakes, it is usually near the mouth or nose.

Sick Hogs.—J. M. R., Bellville, Kan., writes: "I want to ask you a question about my hogs. I found a number of them with raw sores around their eyes. At this time quite a number of them are stone-blind. Some of them have hundreds of hard lumps on their ears, and some of them have the eruption on their hams. They eat well as long as they can see to find their corn. We have turned one of them out to die. It will not eat, even when we put the corn to its nose. They have pure spring water to drink, no mud to wallow in, good green shade, and have run on green pasture since April. We commenced feeding green corn August 15th. The sores around their eyes look like sores on dogs' ears made by flies."

ANSWER:—The first sores and nodules in the skin, undoubtedly, were produced by flies or lice, or by both, and afterwards the animals, very likely, became infected with swine-plague through the existing sores. The above will suggest to you what has to be done. Separation, cleanliness and external applications of antiseptics; for instance, washings with a two or even three-per-cent solution of carbolic acid will have to constitute the treatment.

Calves Dying.—R. P., Lynden, Wash., writes: "We have had four calves die this summer from some disease, and thought, perhaps, you could help us so we would know what to do if it occurred again. They first had a cough and then commenced to wheeze. There was a large swelling on the left side of the neck under the ear, and the blood discharged from an opening right above the ear. Toward the last, frothy blood ran from the mouth and nose, and the animal seemed to breathe with great difficulty. They got very thin, and I do not think they were able to eat or drink. One of our neighbors lost a calf from the same disease, and we had a mule that seemed to be just the same before he died, a large swelling about the ear and mouth; but with the mule, the swelling discharged from the shoulder. I hope I have made the symptoms plain enough for you to understand, and that you may be able to tell us what to do, for it is hard to lose stock in a new-settled country like this."

ANSWER:—Your description almost points toward a presence of *œstrup* larvae, possibly belonging to the genus *Cephalomyia*, in the frontal and maxillary sinuses, etc., of the animals. If the same cases happen again, let a competent person make a careful post-mortem examination of all the cavities and sinuses of the head, and report again. I cannot give you any information concerning your mule. Your description is too indefinite.

Won't Fatten.—S. H. P., New Bedford, writes: "I have a horse that cannot get fat. He is eight years old, seems to want to eat at all times, and everything; don't hold his feed. I feed him now six quarts of oats and cracked

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See New York World, May 18, 1890; Philadelphia Press, May 19; Christian Observer and Medical Journal, April 9, etc., for full accounts of this wonderful botanical discovery. The Christian Evangelist, May 30, 1890, says editorially: "If no other result than the discovery of the Kola plant followed the explorations of Stanley and associates, surely their labors were not in vain. We have the most convincing proof that it is a certain and unfailing cure for Asthma in all its forms, and is the most valuable medical discovery of this century." Remember, NO PAY UNTIL CURED.



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corn three times a day. I think this too much. I don't work him hard. I have thought that, too, he may have some skin disease, as he will rub himself many times; and I have thought that after cleaning him the particles which lodged upon me caused me to itch very much. Can you give any remedy for the various troubles?"

ANSWER:—Your horse, most likely, suffers from chronic indigestion, maybe brought on by overfeeding. Still, there are too many possibilities to enable me to base a reliable diagnosis upon your description, or to render a decision without examining the horse and inquire into the manner, etc., in which the same has been kept. Besides that, there are horses which remain thin in flesh, no matter what may be done with them. As it is, my advice would be: 1, to reduce the feed until the dung loses its offensive smell; 2, to feed nothing but what is sound and easy of digestion—the very best of hay and good oats, in moderate quantities; 3, to see to it that the animal is well groomed and cleaned every day; 4, to give the animal suitable exercise. Substances like lime, arsenious acid, etc., sometimes fed by horse-doctors to horses which they desire to fatten, cannot be recommended, because the benefit derived from them is only an apparent one.

Possibly Gangrenous Pneumonia.—C. M., Brewerton, N. Y., writes: "This spring I found that one of my horses would not drink at night. She had eaten part of her grain and slobbered over it. She did not act sick. At daylight she was down, and the next night at ten o'clock she was dead. In six days more were noticed not to drink or eat. The second one lived two days after being down. The third one lived ten days, never swallowing any food or drink, only what was poured down him. He was down only five hours and died. All kicked at intervals and went in a circle. All had a green froth around the mouth. The second one was paralyzed along the backbone, and lay with his tongue out of his mouth. We opened the first one. The lungs were black. The throat of the third one was much inflamed."

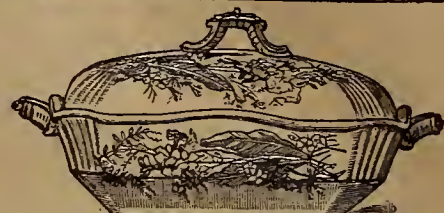
ANSWER:—Your somewhat rambling description does not enable me to answer all your questions. You ought to have made a more careful post-mortem examination. The disease, possibly, was or resulted in gangrenous pneumonia, and it is difficult to decide whether the same causes acted upon all three animals, or whether the last two animals became infected by the first. Such questions can only be answered if all the essential symptoms, morbid changes, etc., are known, or if some really characteristic symptoms are communicated, because only then a definite diagnosis is possible. It is not likely that your horses were poisoned.

Umbilical Hernia.—E. W. M., Adrian, Mich., writes: "I have a mare colt about eighteen months old that has been ruptured from the time she was foaled. It is about the size of half of a small egg, and is located at or near the navel. Is there any remedy? She is a well-bred Hamiltonian, and if it is likely to injure her, would like to have her cured."

ANSWER:—An umbilical hernia is best, easiest and safest removed in the following way: First, the animal to be operated on is prepared by fasting twelve to twenty-four hours before the operation. Then the same is thrown and rolled on its back, and its feet fastened upward. When thus in position, a reposition of the intestines into the abdominal cavity must be effected. This accomplished, the hernial sac is elevated—drawn upward—longitudinally, corresponding to the median (so-called white) line of the animal; then flat and slightly-curved, hinged, iron clamps, made for that special purpose, are applied to the base of the hernial sac as close to the body of the animal as possible, and securely fastened by means of a set-screw, so that the whole hernial sac projects above the clamps. This done, the whole hernial sac is then separated—sewed off or ligated—by means of the so-called shoemaker's suture with a good "waxed end" and two curved needles. Of course, at each stitch the waxed end must be drawn on as tightly as possible, and the stitches must not be any longer (or further apart) than, say, three-fourths of an inch. After the suture has been applied, and the ends have been securely tied together, the clamps can be removed, the animal can be allowed to rise and the operation is finished. In a week or two the whole hernial sac will drop off, and the opening will be closed. It is advisable, however, to have the operation performed by nobody but a qualified veterinarian.

St. John's Weed.—Z. F. J., Scottsville, Va., writes: "I have a two-year-old colt, with two white feet, which has been poisoned by St. John's weed. Please give me a remedy."

ANSWER:—I would like to comply with your request, but I must confess I do not know any poisonous plant called St. John's weed, neither



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do I know any weed that poisons the feet of a horse. If your colt has scratches or grease-heal, you will effect a healing if you keep the animal out of the mud, keep the feet clean, and apply to the sores, three times a day, a mixture of liquid subacetate of lead, one part, and olive-oil, three parts.

In regard to the above, which appeared in a recent number of FARM AND FIRESIDE, I have received several letters from would-be instructors, which don't require any publication, because none of them, with the exception of one, conveys any information. This one was written by Mr. W. B. W., Trenton, N. J., who enclosed a portion of a plant known as St. John's-weed, but not St. John's weed, which, I think, is an entirely different thing. Its botanical name is *Hypericum perforatum*, L., not *perfoliatum*, as one letter-writer has it. It has been accused of causing an eruption on white-colored feet of horses. But this accusation is not based upon facts, and, therefore, erroneous. It is only hearsay, and nothing more. The botanist of the United States Department of Agriculture has the following:

"St. John's-weed, *Hypericum perforatum*. The plant has been introduced and become naturalized quite extensively in this country, east of the Mississippi. It is a perennial weed, rather troublesome in old fields and pastures. At one time it was supposed to cause ulcers upon the feet of cattle, but it has probably no such effect."—Report of the botanist, Geo. Vasey. Report of Department of Agriculture, 1887, page 308, Vol. X.

If one desires more information, and if my would-be instructors wish to inform themselves, I refer them to a little book entitled, "American Weeds and Useful Plants, etc.," by William Darlington, M. D., Orange Judd Company, 1883.

I, therefore, have nothing to take back of what I said in my answer to Z. F. J., and am sure if Z. F. J. follows my advice he will have no more complaint about St. John's weeds. Scratches and grease-heal nearly always favor white feet, or affect them first and most severely. No attention will be paid to any further letters concerning St. John's weed, or even St. John's-weed. In former times the herb and the flowers of *Hypericum*, and also an oil gained from the same plant (Ol. Hyperici coct.) were esteemed as a healing remedy. The investigation demanded by some of my correspondents is probably superfluous.

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Our Miscellany.

WHICH WAY?

BY CLARA J. DENTON.

Once there was a little maid
Who grew so cross each hour
That everyone who knew her said,
"She'll turn all sweet things sour!"
There was another little maid
Who was so very sweet
That everyone who saw her said,
"She's good enough to eat."
Now, if this little maid so good
Should meet the one so cross,
I wonder if there'd be a change,
And which would suffer loss.

THE rice crop is reported above the average.

FOR A DISORDERED LIVER TRY BEECHAM'S PILLS.

OCCASIONAL praise is wholesome as well as agreeable.

ONE fault begets another; one crime makes another necessary.

THE most certain sign of wisdom is a perpetual cheerfulness.

PATIENCE is a plant of slow growth, but it bears precious fruit.

WE never injure our own character so much as when we attack those of others.

THE Persians give names to every day in the month, just as we give them to days of the week.

CALIFORNIA has 2,675 of the giant trees still left, and of these the largest is thirty-three feet in diameter.

A PERSON who tells you the faults of others, intends to tell others of your faults. Have a care how you listen.

It is not generally known that the Atlantic cable authorities count a word exceeding ten letters as two words.

A TAILOR says that few men have evenly balanced shoulders, the right almost invariably being lower than the left.

DURING a recent thunder storm in Maine the skin of a boy who was struck by lightning turned a dark purple, and has remained so ever since.

THE popular preacher tells the people truths about their neighbors, and makes it a point not to tell them unpleasant truths about themselves.

THERE is an immense garden in China that embraces an area of 50,000 square miles. It is all meadow land, and is filled with lakes, ponds and canals.

ONE wheat field in Colusa county, Cal., covers 572 square miles. This year it yielded an average of 15 bushels per acre, or a total of nearly 3,000,000 bushels.

OLD farmer tending threshing machine, to applicant for a job—"Ever done any thrashing?" Applicant, modestly—"I am the father of seventeen children, sir."

It has been well said that no man ever sank under the burden of the day. It is when tomorrow's burden is added to the burden of to-day that the weight is more than a man can bear.

MRS. MCCARTHY—"Yer wages is twenty cents short this wack, Moike." Mr. McCarthy—"Yis, Mary Ann. We had an explosion on Toosday, an' th' foorman docked me fur the time Oi wuz in th' air."

APPLE-GROWING is attracting increased attention in California, and the foot-hill regions of some of the mountainous counties are reported as producing no inconsiderable quantity of apples of the best quality.

A WOMAN in Americus, Ga., is using a lamp-chimney that she has used daily for the past eight years, and she expects to use it for many years yet. She says that she boiled it in salt and water when it was bought, in 1882, and no matter how large a flame runs through it, it won't break.

TURPENTINE, in which is dissolved as much camphor as it will take up, is pre-eminently the dressing for lacerations, bruises and cuts. Its antiseptic action is equal to that of carbolic acid; it speedily stops the bleeding. Few if any ulcers long resist its continued application.

"Dor boy of mine isn't going to make a good business man," said Mr. Beckstein. "Yesterday I told him I was going to leave all my property to him ven I died, und vat you s'pose he say to dot?" "I don't know, Mr. Beckstein." "Vell, he say he vill throw off five per cent for spot cash."

A MINISTER, making a pastoral call at a house where the children were kept pretty quiet on Sunday, was confidentially told by one of the little girls that she would like to be a minister. "Why?" said the gratified and somewhat puzzled shepherd. "So I could holler on Sunday," was the reply.

A SALARY

With expenses paid will come handy to anyone who is now out of employment, especially where no previous experience is required. See advertisement on page 15, headed, "A Chance to Make Money."

THE Chinese census is taken yearly, and costs little for official work. The oldest male inhabitant in every ten houses counts the respective families and sends the list to the government.

THERE are few things that will collect mold as quickly as old boots or shoes, more particularly if in a close receptacle, such as a dark closet. Consequently, when they are laid away for any length of time they should all be taken out into the light and air occasionally, to keep them in fair condition.

WHENEVER you look at yourself, look for faults. When you look at others, try to see something good. Every time a man thinks of leaving Satan's service, the devil promises to double his wages. God never calls a rascal to preach the gospel, but the devil very frequently does. It is not the last drink that makes a man a drunkard, but the first.

TURPENTINE is a sure antidote for phosphorus, such as children often swallow when they lunch on match heads. Five or ten drops floated on water should be given every hour until the danger is past. No oily or mucilaginous substances should be taken. If the stomach is unable to retain it, it may be given as an enema in double the quantity.—*Boston Globe*.

A REMARKABLE instance of a dog's sagacity has just been reported from Indiana. A large, English setter was "making a point" at a fish that was chasing minnows in the shallow water of a lake near a small boat-pier. A bystander told the dog to "hie in," and in he jumped. His head went down in the water and he threw a large fish high in the air. It fell in the water, when he caught it again and brought it to shore. It was a bass and tipped the beam at two and one half pounds.

THE total expenditures for schools amount to over \$132,000,000, twice as much as the postal service costs, nearly four times as much as was paid by the government last year as interest on the national debt, or six times as much as the naval expenses of the country. If the public schools were managed directly by the national government, and their expenditures paid out of the national treasury, the item for public schools would be the largest single item of expenditure by nearly \$30,000,000, the item of \$106,000,000 for pensions coming next. This shows what an immense interest, from every point of view, public education has become.

HAD LEARNED TOO MUCH.

A true story is told of a farmer's dog who had been found guilty of obtaining goods under false pretences. He is extremely fond of sausages, and has been taught by his owner to go after them for him, carrying a written order in his mouth. "Day after day he appeared at the butcher's shop, bringing his master's order, and by-and-by the butcher became careless about reading the document. Finally, when settlement day came, the farmer complained that he was charged with more sausages than he had ordered. The butcher was surprised, and the next time Lion came in with a slip of paper between his teeth he took the trouble to look at it. The paper was blank, and further investigations showed that whenever the dog felt a craving for sausages he looked around for a piece of paper and trotted off to the butcher's. The farmer is something out of pocket, but squares the account by boasting of his dog's intelligence.

WHY MAN IS THE SUPERIOR BEING.

"There, I've come away and forgot my gloves," said Mrs. Buxom to her husband as they started to make some calls the other evening. "You were in such a hurry that I don't suppose I'm more than half dressed." "That's just like a woman," said Buxom, "always something left behind. Now, you see a man has an orderly and disciplined mind and always does one thing at a time, and doesn't get left. But I'll go back and get your gloves. Great Scott! I have left my door-key in my other pocket, and the girl has gone out."

"No, you took 'em out and left 'em on the bureau by my gloves," said Mrs. Buxom. "I remember seeing them."

"Good gracious, woman, you are enough to drive one wild! Why didn't you tell me? You might have known I laid them there so as to be sure to put 'em into my other pocket. Of course I did; that's the only way to do a thing; have some system about you; but of course, a woman would never guess what I laid them down there for."

GO AND VIEW THE LAND.

Cheap Harvest Excursion.

On September 29th, a Low Rate Harvest Excursion will be run from ALL STATIONS ON THE WABASH RAILROAD to the Great Farming Regions of the West, Northwest, South and Southwest. Tickets good returning for thirty days from date of sale.

The crops were never so good as this year, and the Railroad Rates, via Wabash, never so low. Whatever section you wish to visit, be sure and write to or call upon the nearest Wabash ticket agent for particulars as to rates, time of trains, accommodations, etc.

If you do not live adjacent to the Wabash, write at once to

F. CHANDLER,
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ST. LOUIS, MO.

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20 Elegant Fringe Fan, (patented), Emb. Basket, &c. Cards, with name on, this size 1 1/2 made knife, 1 pen, 25 games, 1 outfit, 5c. Agents sample book, 1c. B. Clintonville, Ct.

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Cut this ad. out and send to us and we will send the WATCH, CHAIN AND CHARM to you by express, C. O. D. (all express charges prepaid by us) with privilege of FREE examination. If you do not find it all and even more than we claim leave it and you are only out your time. But if perfectly satisfactory pay the express agent our special Cut Price \$5.00 and take the watch. No such bargain ever offered before. A Genuine Gold-plated Watch warranted in every respect. Case is beautifully engraved. (Cut shows both back and front of watch.) Hinge case with basket cap to protect from dust. Crown, bezel and centre case all accurately made. The movement is a fine AMERICAN style, STEM WIND and STEM SET. RICHLY JEWELLED, quick train, finest balance, pillars and escapement, full plate, beautifully finished, regulated, adjusted & warranted an accurate time keeper. A Genuine Charm is sent with each watch. W. HILL & CO., 111 Madison St., Chicago.

ST. IGNACE, MICH., August 21, 1891.
The two pictures, "Christ Before Pilate" and "Christ on Calvary," received all right, and would say that the pictures are very nice. Would not take ten dollars apiece for them. I am having them framed under glass. I am very thankful to you for sending them. I like your paper very much. JOHN HILE.

AUBURN, ILL., May 15, 1891.
I wish to express my sincere thanks for that splendid Cook Book and your generosity in sending it. Have taken FARM AND FIRESIDE for eleven years, and sometimes when money is scarce I think, well, I will drop it, but manage to find the money some way, for it seems I cannot do without its old, familiar face. MRS. C. S. FLATT.

OGDEN, UTAH, August 8, 1891.
Please accept my sincere thanks for the Cook Book which I received some time ago. I was surprised when it came, and I looked through it and saw how nice it was. It is splendid, and I thank you very much for it; also for the paper, which I receive regularly. It is a lovely paper, the nicest I have ever taken, and in return for your kindness I will try to get subscribers for it. MRS. E. P. KENDRICK.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., August 27, 1891.
I received the High-arm Sewing-machine and am delighted with it. I have had many of my friends and neighbors to see it, and had one to see it to-day that is going to send for one like it. I have used it most every day since I received it, the 20th of July. The more I use it the better I like it. Many thanks for your kindness and promptness in sending it in such good order. It came without a scratch. MRS. BULMER.

LUZERNE, IOWA, Aug. 29, 1891.
Please accept thanks for picture, "Christ on Calvary," which arrived in due time, and also in good order. I will take pleasure in showing it to friends. TILLIE NIEBES.

MILLSTADT, ILL., August 25, 1891.
I received the Modern Cook Book a few weeks ago and am very much pleased with it. It is much better than I thought it was. Many thanks. SARAH REITZ.

PARAGOULD, ARK., Sept. 2, 1891.
I wish to tell your readers what a treasure we got from you. It is the Peerless Atlas of the World. I hope that every one that has not ordered a copy will do so at once. MRS. F. H. HARNES.

INDEPENDENCE, IND., Sept. 8, 1891.
The Butter-knife and Sugar-shell are just received. I am very much pleased with them. MRS. AMANDA J. EDWARDS.

BROOKLYN, MD., August 27, 1891.
I have received my Machine in good order, and would say that it is far superior to my expectations. It is in perfect order and in every respect is what you represent it. Many thanks for your kindness and promptness. M. E. THOMAS.

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Smiles.

WHEN WE GET THERE.

On the thirty-second day of the thirteenth month of the eighth day of the week, On the twenty-fifth hour of the sixty-first minute we'll find all things that we seek. They are there in the Limbo of Lollipop land—a cloud island resting in air, On the nowhere side of the mountain of Mist, in the valley of Overthere.

On the nowhere side of the mountain of Mist, in the valley of Overthere, On a solid vapor foundation of clouds are palaces grand and fair, And there is where our dreams will come true, and the seeds of our hope will grow On the thitherward side of the hills of Hope, in the hamlet of Hocus Po.

On the thitherward side of the hills of Hope, in the hamlet of Hocus Po, We shall see all the things that we want to see and know all we care to know, For there the old men will never lament, the babies they never will squeak, In the cross-road corners of Chaosville, in the county of Hildeangoseek.

In the cross-road corners of Chaosville, in the county of Hildeangoseek, On the thirty-second day of the thirteenth month of the eighth day of the week, We shall do all the things that we please to do, And accomplish all that we try, On the sunset shore of Sometimeorther, by the beautiful bay of Bimeby.

—Yankee Blade.

OUT OF HIS LATITUDE.

It would be hard to say which a "funny man" likes best, a listener to whom all his jokes are new and "side-splitting," or one of those dull souls who take everything seriously. An ex-governor of Wisconsin, famous as a story-teller, is reported by the Chicago Tribune as having related an anecdote of his own experience with a man of the latter class. The governor was at a clam-bake in New Jersey, and after dinner was called upon for a speech.

I started off by saying that I had eaten so many of their low-necked clams that I wasn't in the least sort of condition for speech-making. At that moment a long-faced man directly across the table scowled at me and said in a stage whisper:

"Little-neck clams, little necks—not low necks."

I paid no attention to him and went on with my remarks. After dinner he followed me out of the hall.

"You are from Wisconsin, ain't you?" he asked.

"Yes," I answered.

"You don't have many clams out there, I reckon?"

"Well," said I, "we have some, but it's a good way to water, and in driving them across the country their feet get sore and they don't thrive very well."

He gave me a look that was worth a dollar and a half.

"Why, man alive!" said he, "clams ain't got no feet."

He turned away, and shortly afterward approached one of my friends.

"Is that fellow governor of Wisconsin?" he inquired.

"Yes."

"W-a-l-l," said he, "he may be a smart man in Wisconsin, but he's a good deal of a fool at the sea-shore."

DODGED THE UMPIRE.

A seedy-looking individual knocked at the door of a house on Cass avenue, and when the girl opened it he said:

"Judging from your expression, you mistake me for a tramp?"

"Yes," said the girl, "judging from your appearance I do."

"Well, you wrong me. I have had a wrestle with fate and been thrown, but I am no tramp."

"I'll let Towser decide," said the girl; "he never makes a mistake."

But while Towser was getting up the cellar steps the "tramp" worked his way out of the neighborhood.—Detroit Free Press.

PHILOSOPHY FROM TEXAS.

Cloves on the breath is a plea of guilty. The parlor is the matrimonial market-place. A proverb is a clearly stated fact with whiskers on it.

The trouble with the crank is that he will turn only one way.

The rooster crows at daybreak to wake up all the hens for business.

There is more good common sense in the French duel than in any other kind.

Carving white pine goods-boxes with a pocket-knife is a profession and not a trade.—Dallas News.

REVERSING SCRIPTURE.

Mrs. Bunting (near-sighted)—"What is the object of the notice on that tree?"

Bunting (who sees that it reads "Beware of the dog")—It is put there that he who reads may run.

HOW SHE SMOTE HIM.

"Harry," said a Fort-street wife to her husband, "I want a hundred dollars."

"A hundred what?" exclaimed the husband.

"Dollars," she replied, calmly.

"What for?"

"Oh, a whole lot of things."

"Um—um," he hesitated, "I guess I shall have to check your extravagance, my dear."

"Do," she smiled, "and make it payable to my order, please."

He collapsed then and there.—Detroit Free Press.

THE POINT OF VIEW.

[Scene—A hot day in Sheol. New arrival is wailing and gnashing his teeth.]

Old resident (from one of the Jersey suburbs)—"Tut! Tut! My dear fellow, this place is not so bad as you think. True, it's hot. But it's a dry, healthful heat; there are no mosquitoes, and there is no furnace to tend in winter."

[New Arrival ceases wailing and gnashing his teeth.]

HE WAS RICH.

Hurly—"We always hang Uncle John's pictures in a prominent place. He's an artist, you know."

Burly—"A good one, I suppose."

Hurly—"No, indeed. He doesn't know the first thing about painting."

Burly—"Then, why—?"

Hurly—"Oh, he's very wealthy, and my wife expects to become his heiress."—Yankee Blade.

DISAPPOINTMENT.

"Of cawse you liked deah old Lunnon?" said Goslin to Sappy, when the latter returned from his first run across.

"No, deah boy; I was rawther disappointed, doncher know?"

"Aw?"

"Yass. The fact is, Lunnon isn't quite so English as New York."—Harper's Bazar.

A PROMINENT PERSONAGE.

Jawkins—"Who is that man yonder who goes along with his nose in the air?"

Hogg—"Sh! He's a mighty important personage. His picture and biography are in all the papers."

Jawkins—"What has he done?"

Hogg—"He's the man who was cured of catarrh."

HER RETURN TICKET.

A young couple were hurrying to catch the train out of Chicago when the bride's mother said:

"Now, Clara, you're sure you've got your return ticket."

"Oh, yes, mother; it is safe in the hands of my lawyer."

CROWDED OUT.

"I like this dress very much," said Ethel.

"It is just too delightfully tight. But where are the pockets?"

"Here they are," said the dressmaker, handing her two small, silken bags. "You'll have to carry them in your hands. There's not room in the dress for them."—Harper's Bazar.

LITTLE BITS.

Mrs. Parloh—"So you don't like those orange fritters? Why, my first husband used to eat ten or a dozen of them at a time."

Mr. Parloh—"Well, he's dead, isn't he?"—West Shore.

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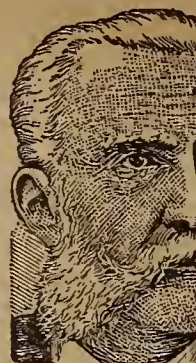
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Are you sick? Do your hands and feet become cold and feel clammy? Have you a dry cough? Do you expectorate greenish colored matter? Are you yawning or spitting all day long? Do you feel tired all the while? Are you nervous, irritable and gloomy? Do you have colds, sore throats? Is there a giddiness, a sort of whirling sensation in the head when rising up suddenly? Do your bowels become constipated? Is your skin dry and not at times? Is your blood back and stagnant? Are the whites of your eyes tinged with yellow? Is your urine scanty and high colored? Does it deposit a sediment after standing? Do you frequently spit up your food, sometimes with a sour taste and sometimes with a sweet? Is this frequently attended with a palpitation of the heart? Has your vision become impaired? Are there spots before the eyes? Is there a feeling of great prostration and weakness? If you suffer from any of these symptoms I will gladly send you by return mail a sample bottle of the best remedy on earth for the speedy and permanent cure of the above-named complaints. This will enable you to test my medicine free of all cost. No other medicine manufacturer can afford to do this. I know my remedy will cure you no matter how badly you suffer. Write to-day, stating your disease. A trial costs you nothing.

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Lace yourself straightly, Mistress Lucy, and encourage Colin to understand that while you stay under the paternal roof the obligations of that shelter are on you and forbid you to concentrate all your court-ship on a single guest.—*Scribner.*

ADHESIVE QUALITIES OF ONIONS.

Paper pasted, gummed or glued onto metal, especially if it has a bright surface, usually comes off on the slightest provocation, leaving the adhesive material on the back of the paper, with a surface bright and slippery as ice. The cheaper description of clock-dials are printed on paper and then stuck on zinc, but for years the difficulty was to get the paper and metal to adhere. It is, however, said to be now overcome by dipping the metal into a strong and hot solution of washing-soda, afterward scrubbing perfectly dry with a clean rag. Onion juice is then applied to the surface of the metal, and the label pasted and fixed in the ordinary way. It is said to be almost impossible to separate paper and metal thus joined. Probably metal show tablets might be successfully treated in the same manner.

BE SENSIBLE.

Do not be above your business. He who turns up his nose at work quarrels with bread and butter. He is a poor smith who is afraid of his own sparks; there's some discomfort in all trades except chimney sweeping. If sailors give up going to sea because of the wet; if bakers left off baking bread because it is hard work; if plowmen would not plow because of cold, and tailors would not make our clothes for fear of pricking their fingers, what a pass we would come to. Nonsense, my fine fellow, there's no shame about any honest calling; don't be afraid of soiling your hands; there's plenty of soap to be had.

THE AMERICAN HOME.

I am a thorough American. I believe in the American idea of liberty. I believe in political as well as industrial independence, and if I were asked to state in a single sentence what constitutes the strength of the American republic, I would say it is the American home. The American home is better than any other home, because we have made it better, by our favoring legislation, to the ambitions and energies of the American boy and girl. I have no objection to the foreign products; but I do like the home products the best.—*W. McKinley, Jr.*

FREE SCHOOLS AND THE BALLOT.

Probably at the bottom of opposition to free education in England is the fear of the privileged classes that the poor are learning to know too much, and that the public school and the House of Lords cannot long exist in the same country. The fear is well-grounded. With free schools to teach the people how to use the ballot, British coronets and coats of arms would soon be relegated to the sole possession of the American Anglomaniac.—*New York Press.*

The parent who sends his son into the world uneducated and without skill in any art or science, does a great injury to mankind as well as to his own family, for he defrauds the community of a useful citizen and bequeaths to it a nuisance.

Recent Publications.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

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EXPERIMENT STATION BULLETINS.

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CONNECTICUT.—(State Station, New Haven) Bulletin No. 109, August, 1891. Analyses of commercial fertilizers, special manures and home mixtures.

INDIANA.—(Lafayette) Special bulletin, May, 1891. Commercial fertilizers. Bulletin No. 36, August, 1891. Field experiments with wheat. The grain tester. Wheat scab. Forms of nitrogen for wheat.

KANSAS.—(Manhattan) Bulletin No. 20, July, 1891. Experiments with wheat.

KENTUCKY.—(Lexington) Bulletin No. 34, August, 1891. Commercial fertilizers. Bulletin No. 35, September, 1891. Experiments with wheat and oats.

MISSOURI.—(Columbia) Bulletin No. 15, July, 1891. Experiments with wheat, oats and potatoes.

NEW MEXICO.—(Las Cruces) Bulletin No. 3, June, 1891. A preliminary account of some insects injurious to fruits.

NORTH CAROLINA.—(Raleigh) Bulletin No. 77b, July 1, 1891. The injury of foliage by arsenites. A cheap arsenite. Combination of arsenites with fungicides. Bulletin No. 78, July 10, 1891. Some injurious insects.

OHIO.—(Columbus) Bulletin No. 3, Vol. 4, August 1, 1891. Commercial and other fertilizers on wheat. Some fertilizing materials and their uses. Bulletin No. 4, Vol. 4, August 25, 1891. Experiments in cheat seeding. Treatment of wheat for smut. Comparative test of varieties of wheat.

ONTARIO.—(Agricultural College Station, Guelph) Bulletin No. 47, August 12, 1891. Winter wheat experiments.

PENNSYLVANIA.—(State College) Bulletin No. 16, July, 1891. Culture of the chestnut for fruit. Analysis of several varieties of chestnuts.

WYOMING.—(Laramie) Bulletin No. 2, Aug., 1891. Plant-lice.

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Supplement to October 1, 1891.

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VOL. XV. NO. 1.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., and SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, OCTOBER 1, 1891.

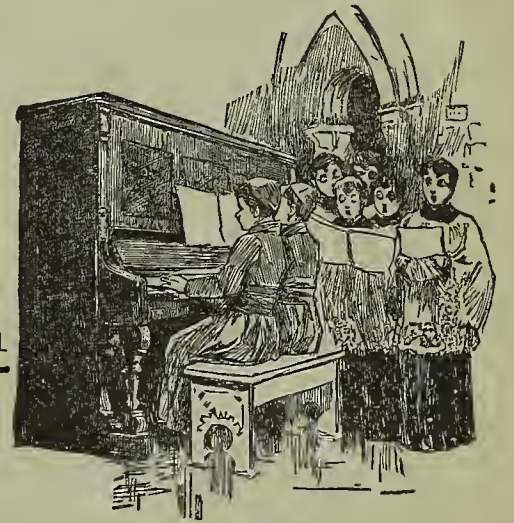
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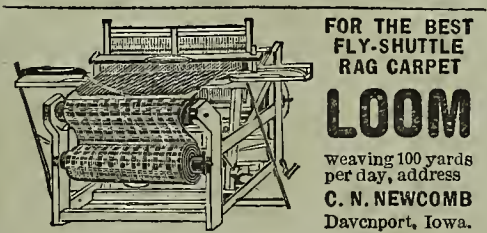
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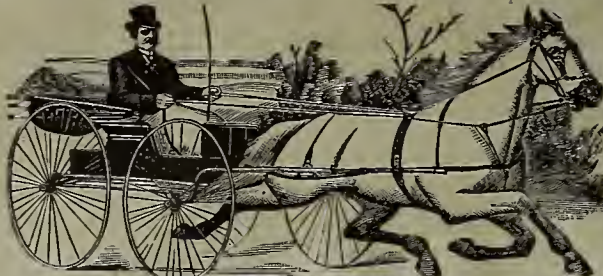
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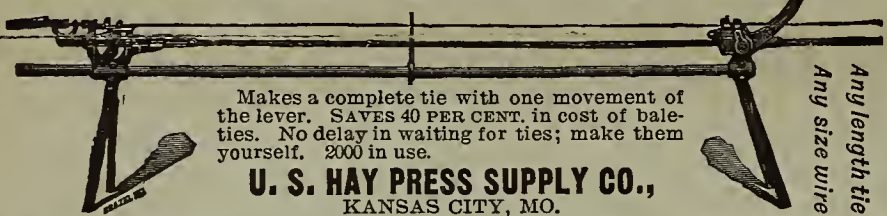
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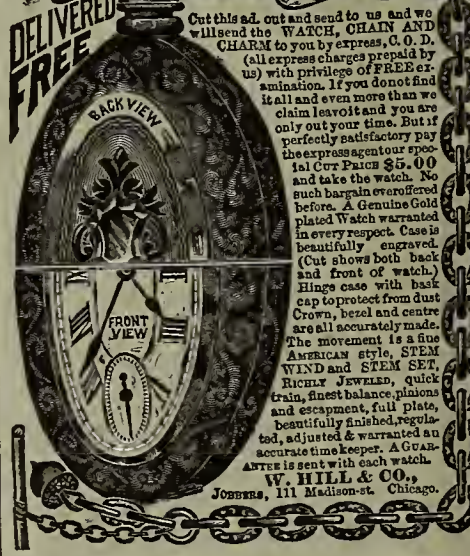
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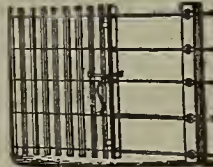
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THE GARRETT PICKET AND WIRE FENCE MACHINE Weaves to the posts. A universal favorite. Thousands in use. Guaranteed. Freight paid. Agents are reporting big sales. Machines, Wire, etc., at wholesale direct from factory to Farmers. Catalogue free. Address the manufacturer, **S. H. GARRETT, MANSFIELD, OHIO.**



MONITOR INCUBATOR Twenty-three first premiums in one year. Large circular for stamp. **A. F. WILLIAMS, Bristol, Conn.**

FARM AND FIRESIDE

Supplement to
October 1, 1891.

PREMIUM LIST.

Entered at the Post-Office at
Springfield, Ohio, as
Second-class Mail Matter.

VOL. XV.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., and SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, OCTOBER 1, 1891.

NO. 1.



Our Publishing House; erected by and used exclusively for Farm and Fireside and the Ladies Home Companion. Built of red pressed brick, with white stone trimmings. 220 feet front.

The Following Pages Contain SPECIAL OFFERS To Induce Old Subscribers and Agents To Obtain NEW Subscribers.

Read these Instructions before sending in your Subscriptions.

HOW TO SEND MONEY.

Money can be safely sent us either by Post-office or Express Money Order, Postal Note, Registered Letter, or Drafts on New York, Philadelphia, Chicago or any large city. If sent in any other way than the above-named methods it must be at your risk.

Do not send Bank Checks on banks in small towns, because it costs 25 cents to collect all such, and therefore we return them.

Small sums of money generally go safely in an ordinary letter, but the safest way is to procure a Money Order or Register your letters.

Silver by mail. Do not send over 50 cents in silver by mail, unless you wrap it carefully, and put an extra two-cent stamp on the letter for every extra 50 cents in silver it contains. Failure to observe this may cause your letter to get lost.

Postage Stamps. We will accept postage stamps in good order, in sums of 50 cents or less, for subscriptions or premiums, but we trust our friends will send just as few stamps as possible, and be very careful to keep them dry and in good condition. Worn, defaced and mutilated stamps, and those which have been wet, will be returned at the expense of the sender.

Make your remittance payable to "FARM AND FIRESIDE," and it will be just as safe as though addressed to Mast, Crowell & Kirkpatrick, and besides we will then know from the envelope which of our papers you want.

Terms of Subscription. FARM AND FIRESIDE is published semi-monthly, and is mailed to any address, postpaid, for 50 cents per year (24 numbers.)

Sign your name. Every time you write us, give the name of your Post-office, County and State, and sign your name plainly. When ordering premiums, give the name of your express office if it is different from your post-office. If you write us twice a day, remember these rules; it will save you and us time and trouble.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

If you want to write to the editor about any new and good point you have in connection with your farm, or to ask for information, or if you have any good cooking recipe that you want the world to know, be sure to send it addressed thus: "Editor of FARM AND FIRESIDE." And be careful to have your article written on one side of the paper only. The editor will always be glad to hear from you, but we ask you to remember that the Subscription Department and the Editorial Department are entirely distinct and separate.

NO GOODS SENT C. O. D.

We do a strictly cash-in-advance business, and sell all goods at too low rates to keep accounts and wait for their payment.

HOW TO GAIN SUBSCRIBERS AND PREMIUMS.

1. Make up your mind that you are going to secure one or more of the splendid premiums we offer, and go at it systematically.

2. To do this, get from us the necessary sample copies, premium list and subscription blanks (which we send free), and proceed to leave them where, in your judgment, they will do the most good.

3. Keep an account where you have left sample copies, and make neighborly calls to see how they like the paper and whether they are ready to subscribe. If not, another sample copy may be left to work its quiet way into the family heart. We publish papers for the people, and at popular prices, and a few judicious words from you will make any one see what a wonderful amount of information, pleasure and innocent fun can be had at the expenditure of a small sum. If you are enthusiastic in the work you will be successful. Nothing wins quicker than to let people know that you thoroughly believe what you say and can prove every word. A second call for the subscription will be very apt to bring it, and send you on your way rejoicing.

If requested by postal card, we will furnish specimen copies free to aid you in obtaining subscriptions. State how many specimen copies you can use to advantage.

Special copies of this paper are sent for 5 cents each, but sample copies of our own selection are sent free.

PARTICULAR NOTICE ABOUT PREMIUMS.

What we mean by a "club raiser," or "agent." The premiums offered are given as a reward for labor performed in obtaining subscribers, and we gladly give them to club raisers who spend their time working for us, but it is unjust for any one to expect a premium when they do no work and spend no time in obtaining subscribers; therefore, if a person sends us the name of a member of his or her family we cannot allow a premium for that name, because the person has not done any work; he has not gone out and solicited any one to subscribe, and thus helped to make our paper known to others. For the same reason we cannot let a name count towards a premium when there is a change or transfer from one member of the family to another. We will allow a club raiser to count his own name towards a premium when three or more names besides his own are sent, as this shows he has actually done some work, and has been out among the people telling them of the merits of our paper.

WHO IS A NEW SUBSCRIBER?

A new subscriber must be a person who is not now on our subscription list, and one whom you have sought out and solicited to take the paper. It must not be a change from one member of the family to another, but a genuine new subscriber. Sending your own subscription, or the name of your wife, husband or any other member of your own family, is not sending a new subscriber in the sense we intend it, and will not entitle you to a premium.

PREMIUMS FOR SALE.

Any person who may wish to purchase articles offered as premiums may do so at the prices named, which, as a rule, are less than the prices charged for the same quality of goods in stores. Our large capital enables us to buy the best goods in large quantities from manufacturers, and we give our subscribers and their friends the benefit of lower prices and better bargains than they themselves could possibly secure.

We have no other style, class or quality of the goods except those described in this List.

The premiums are all new, carefully selected, and of the very best quality for the prices given. We pay postage on all articles sent by mail.

MISTAKES, DELAYS, ETC.

If a mistake has been made in any premium sent you, please write us a courteous letter and state just what the error is, and also send back the label or tag on which your name is written. We will then correct the error and avoid another like it. As we deal with so many thousands of people, mistakes will sometimes occur, but they are not frequent, and we will always cheerfully correct them.

Be sure you allow plenty of time for your letters to reach us, have your goods put up and returned to you, before writing us that you have not received them. We get a good many letters complaining of not receiving papers and premiums when the first letter has but just reached us.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO CLUB RAISERS AND AGENTS.

Whenever you send a subscription in, send the money with the name. Until the money is received we do not place any names on our subscription list.

Order your premiums to suit yourself, either as you send the names in, or after you have completed your list. Whenever you are entitled to a premium, we will send it at the time you order it. But in case you send for your premiums after sending in a number of names, you will please send us the whole list, completed, so that we may compare with those already sent, and thus find whether all the subscriptions sent have been received and correctly entered.

Should any one fail to get the full number of subscribers, they can make up the difference with cash. If you obtain only one half the required number, send one half the retail price with the subscribers, and so on at proportionate rates. For example, it requires 10 subscribers to secure the Telescope. If you obtain only 5 subscribers, which is half the required number, send them, with \$1.25, which is half the price of the Telescope.

Subscriptions can commence at any time during the year, and subscribers can be sent from any number of different post-offices.

A person sending his own name as a subscriber to this paper, with only 50 cents, cannot have a premium for it.

Always mention that you are working for a premium every time you send subscriptions to this paper, because if you fail to do so your name will not be entered on our premium books, and if you ask for a premium at some future day we will not know that you are entitled to it.

Agents must be careful to obtain from each subscriber the correct post-office address. Papers or letters cannot be sent to any town or village that has not a post-office located therein.

News Agents.—None of the Premiums or Gifts are offered to or intended for subscription or news agencies, unless by special agreement.

FREIGHT, EXPRESS OR MAIL.

Under each article in the Premium List we state how goods are sent. If they are sent by mail the postage is prepaid. If by freight or express, the person receiving the same pays charges on delivery.

According to present regulations, all merchandise mailable in the United States may also be sent to Canada and Mexico through the mails. But on such goods as those countries place a tariff, the receiver must pay the customs duties.

COST OF SENDING PREMIUMS BY EXPRESS.

Owing to sharp competition among the express companies, we can send goods by express at very moderate prices. It is the safest way also, as well known. Whenever you want a number of premiums sent together, we can tell you the cost of expressage if you will write us about it. We nearly always send large dolls, printing presses, etc., by express, if the one ordering lives in a place that has an express office.

Packages weighing one pound and under can be sent anywhere in the United States and Canada (except to Pacific coast states) for 25 cents. The rate to the Pacific states is 35 cents for one pound and under.

Over 1 pound to 2 pounds, 30 cents to nearly all states. To Pacific states, 40 and 45 cents.

Over 2 pounds to 3 pounds, 35 to 45 cents. To the far-off states, 50 and 55 cents.

Over 3 pounds to 4 pounds, 35 to 60 cents. To the far-off states, 70 to 85 cents.

4 pounds to 7 pounds, 50 to 70 cents. To California, Nevada, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Colorado, etc., 90 cents to \$1.25.

WHAT OTHERS SAY OF US.

Messrs. Geo. P. Rowell & Co., Publishers of the American Newspaper Directory, New York, have written as follows concerning us: "On the 1st and 15th of each month is issued the Farm and Fireside. This paper suits the popular taste. The firm, Mast, Crowell & Kirkpatrick, who issue it, is accredited by the Mercantile Agencies with a capital of a million dollars, and is too well known and too much respected to make it worth their while to make any statements which are not true. The paper is full of first-class business advertisements, and advertisers say it pays them. No other agricultural publication in the United States equals this in point of circulation."

CASH COMMISSIONS.

Persons wishing cash instead of retaining subscriptions, should terms to those who get up clubs.

When a subscriber takes a premium in connection with the paper, the solicitor or club raiser can retain 15 cents on each subscription, and remit the price of the premium and one year's subscription, less 15 cents.

We wish also to call your attention specially to an item in which our friends frequently make a mistake. We offer a very liberal cash premium or commission, and if this is accepted, you cannot expect any other premium; you have your premium in cash; but if you want premiums offered club raisers you must send the regular price for the paper, which is 50 cents a year for each subscriber.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

When you desire us to change the address on your paper, write us a letter and state plainly:

1. The exact initials and name and address which is now on the yellow label on your paper; or cut the label from your paper and paste or pin onto your letter.

2. What your new address is to be.

Both points are absolutely necessary for us to know in order to promptly make the change.

HOW TO WRITE YOUR LETTER.

It is not necessary to write us long letters in connection with subscription business. Make them short and to the point, about as follows:

Pubs. Farm and Fireside,
Springfield, Ohio:

I enclose 50 cents, for which I want

and Fireside one year.

I also enclose — for Premium No. —

Yours truly,
(Here sign your name.)

Your Post-office, State and County.

(The letter can be addressed to Philadelphia, Pa., instead of Springfield, Ohio, if you live nearer to Philadelphia.)

Be sure you write a plain hand, with no flourishes or fancy signatures. Such a letter as this is about all that is necessary, so far as your subscription is concerned.

HOW TO SEND IN A CLUB.

Use one of our blanks, or take a piece of paper and then rule it and fill it out as we show below:

Pubs. Farm and Fireside,
Springfield, Ohio:

Enclosed find \$2.15 for four subscribers to Farm and Fireside:

NAME.	P. O.	CO.	STATE.	PREM.	AMT.
J. Finke	Mapes	Wilson	Ohio.	175	65
HELusk	Venice	Ware	Ohio.		50
SadieLee	Iraville	Frames	Ohio.		50
WmDien	Grays	Ware	Ohio.		50
					\$2 15

For this club of four please send me Premium No. 322.

H. J. Hatton,
Mapes,
Wilson Co.,
Ohio.

(The letter can be addressed to Philadelphia, Pa., instead of Springfield, Ohio, if you live nearer to Philadelphia.)

In the above case, if J. Finke did not want any premium, then the amount to be sent in would be \$2.00.

Send us the subscription thus properly filled out and we can promptly attend to the whole matter.

We do not send receipts by mail for moneys or subscriptions. The little yellow label tells when your subscription expires. When a new payment is made this date will be changed inside of THREE WEEKS, so that the label is a constant receipt in full for your subscription.

HOW TO DIRECT LETTERS.

Our firm name is Mast, Crowell & Kirkpatrick, but as we print other journals, it is best that letters and subscriptions to FARM AND FIRESIDE be directed as follows:

FARM AND FIRESIDE,
Springfield, Ohio.

If you live nearer to Philadelphia, Pa., than to Springfield, Ohio, you can direct your letter to Philadelphia, Pa., as we have offices in both cities.

FINE JEWELRY.

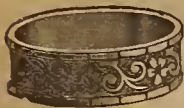
In selecting our jewelry for this season, we have carefully chosen only such goods as are of intrinsic merit and of such good value that those who receive them will be well pleased. By looking at the list you will see that we offer some pieces of solid gold, and when we say *solid gold*, we mean just what we say, and the goods will bear the test. Other goods are *rolled gold*. Rolled gold means that a sheet or plate of pure gold is used as a covering over some good and durable metal as a base. This really makes most pieces of jewelry stronger than if solid gold, and for years rolled gold jewelry has the appearance and looks as well, while the cost is much less than solid gold. People of all classes wear rolled gold jewelry, and undoubtedly there is more of it worn to-day than of solid. We are confident that the merits of our selection are such that those who secure one or more pieces will send again and again.

WARRANTED SOLID GOLD RINGS.

Newest and Handsomest Styles.

To some people this offering of solid gold rings at our low prices seems an impossible thing, and it is a remarkable offer to make, but we ask that you read the warrant placed on the rings, and to remember that we are too well known to make it worth while to say what can in any way prove to be untrue. We have sent out thousands of solid gold rings, giving our subscribers the benefit of low prices secured by buying in large numbers. This year all of our rings are new designs, and are heavier and of greater value for the money than ever before. As a birthday or holiday gift, nothing is so acceptable as a beautiful ring, of good quality.

50 cents.



Prem. No. 494.

Engraved solid gold band ring. Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 80 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

75 cents.



Prem. No. 495.

Engraved solid gold band ring. Heavier than No. 494.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.

We offer it for sale for 75 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Only \$1.



Prem. No. 496.

Engraved solid gold band ring. Five sixteenths of an inch broad.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

We offer it for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

\$1.50.



Prem. No. 497.

Very fine engraved solid gold band ring. Three eighths of an inch broad.

Given as a premium for 7 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.75.

We offer it for sale for \$1.50. Postage paid by us in each case.

\$1.25.



Premium No. 498.

Solid gold friendship ring, with moonstone setting. Neat, elegant and popular. The cut cannot picture its beauty.

Given as a premium for 5 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.50.

We offer it for sale for \$1.25. Postage paid by us in each case.

60 cents.



Premium No. 499.

Child's solid gold ring, with elegant ruby. Engraved. Very pretty.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.

We offer it for sale for 60 cts. Postage paid by us in each case.

To Get the Size of Ring You Want.—Take a narrow strip of stiff paper that just meets around the finger you want to fit; lay this strip on the



page shown here, one end on the left; the other end will show the number wanted.

GOLD FRONT AND ROLLED GOLD LACE PINS.

This year we offer an entirely new selection of ladies' lace pins. The designs are the latest and most fashionable, and they are pronounced exquisitely beautiful. They are good quality and must not be compared with the cheap grades of jewelry. Our prices are lower than the usual prices in the stores. All have the patent safety spring catch.



Premium No. 575.



Premium No. 576.

The above two pins have extra heavy fronts of pure gold. The engraving on No. 575 is beautiful hand-work, making a very neat and stylish appearance. No. 576 is decorated by hand engraving and also has three ruby settings and four brilliants, the combination giving an elegant effect.

Either given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers. Price of either, including one year's subscription, \$1.25. We offer either for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.



Premium No. 577.



Premium No. 578.

These two lace pins have fronts of pure gold. No. 577 has setting of two sapphires, two rubies and a pearl in center. Is engraved and has decorated border. No. 578 is very neat, with beautiful hand engraving.

Either given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers. Price of either, including one year's subscription, \$1. We offer either for sale for 75 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



Premium No. 579.

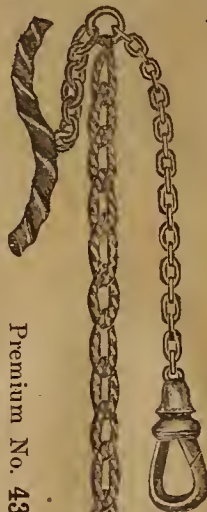
Rolled gold and very beautiful pattern, with handsome engraving.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

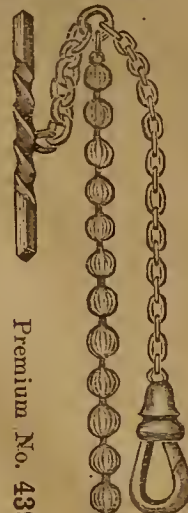
Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Ladies Roman Gold Victoria Chains.



Premium No. 438.



Premium No. 439.

Very stylish patterns, of good quality and elegant appearance. Bright gold guards. The charm on No. 438 is a Roman gold basket, ornamented with enameled leaves. No. 439 has handsome Roman gold charm, with Roman and bright gold decorations.

Either given as a premium for 6 yearly subscribers.

Price of either, including one year's subscription, \$1.75.

We offer either for sale for \$1.50. Postage paid by us in each case.

Ear-Drops. Premium No. 373.

These handsome Ear-drops are fine rolled gold plate, with beautiful white stone brilliants and polished settings. The wires are of gold. A good pair to match some of our lace pins.

A pair given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

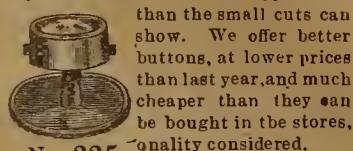
We offer them for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

Rolled Gold Collar Buttons.

We present four very handsome collar buttons, all this season's patterns, and of the very best rolled gold plate. They are much richer in appearance than the small cuts can show. We offer better buttons, at lower prices than last year, and much cheaper than they can be bought in the stores, quality considered.



No. 224.



No. 225.

Nos. 224 and 225 are separable, with polished backs. No. 224 is prettily engraved and has ruby in center, while No. 225 is the popular cat's-eye.

Either given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price of either, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer either for sale for 15 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Nos. 226 and 230 are the popular, plain lever collar buttons, of polished rolled gold, with pearl backs.

Both plain buttons given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price of either plain button, including one year's subscription, 55 cents.

We offer either style plain button for sale for 10 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



No. 226.



No. 230.

Crescent Lace Pin. Premium No. 680.

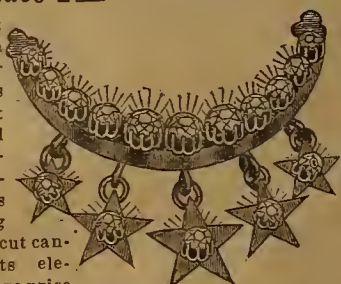
This elegant gold pin is a very popular style. Ladies pronounce it the choicest and richest in design and appearance. Has 16 sparkling brilliants. The cut cannot picture its elegance. The store price of this pin is from \$2.00 to \$4.00.

Given as a premium for 5 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.65.

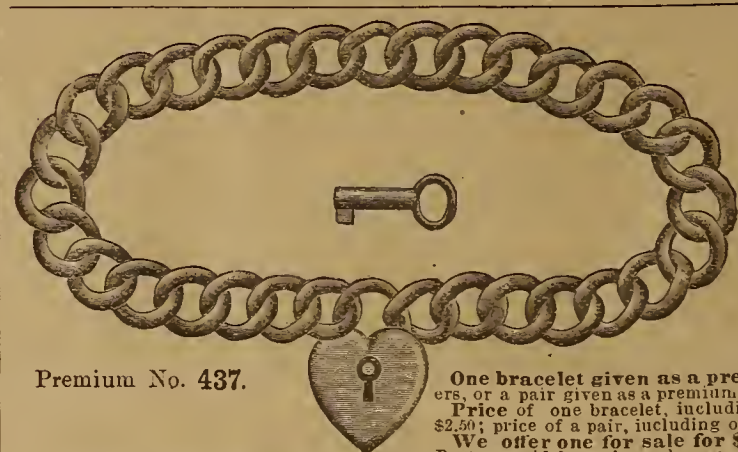
We offer it for sale for \$1.50. Postage paid by us in each case.

Select your Christmas presents from this Premium List. From the large number and variety of desirable articles described, all tastes may be suited, and the prices are lower than is usual in the stores for the same class of goods. Be sure to Order Early.



Fine Quality Rolled Gold Bracelet.

Polished curb pattern, with lock and key. The lock may be fastened in any link of the chain, making the bracelet adjustable, to fit any wrist. Fine quality, very stylish and certain to please the wearer. Fashion now calls for but one bracelet, but some ladies still prefer the old custom of a pair, and we make our offer to suit both.

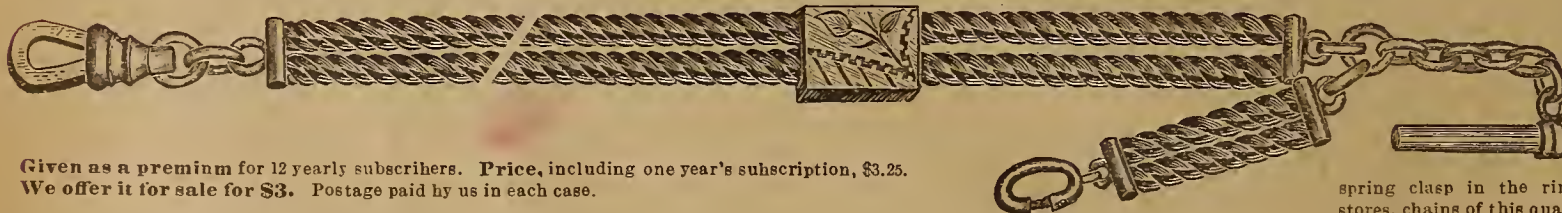


Premium No. 437.

One bracelet given as a premium for 10 yearly subscribers, or a pair given as a premium for 17 yearly subscribers. Price of one bracelet, including one year's subscription, \$2.50; price of a pair, including one year's subscription, \$1.25. We offer one for sale for \$2.25; or a pair for \$4. Postage paid by us in each case.

FINE ROLLED GOLD PLATE WATCH CHAINS.

Warranted Rolled Gold Plate.



Premium No. 440.

Extra quality rolled gold, two-strand, double curb chain, with engraved gold slide and tips. Full size, much longer than cut shows. It is not only a good quality, but is neat and elegant in appearance and will be worn with great satisfaction. The guard has patent spring clasp in the ring for holding charm, as shown in cut. In the stores, chains of this quality and make sell for \$4.00 to \$5.00.

Given as a premium for 12 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$3.25. We offer it for sale for \$3. Postage paid by us in each case.



Premium No. 441.

Given as a premium for 6 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.75. We offer it for sale for \$1.50. Postage paid by us in each case.



Prem. No. 442.

Given as a premium for 8 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$2.25. We offer it for sale for \$2. Postage paid by us in each case.

Ladies Fine Roman Gold Neck Chain. Premium No. 443.



Given as a premium for 5 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.50. We offer it for sale for \$1.25. Postage paid by us in each case.

This fine head necklace is composed of Roman gold heads strung on a chain. It is one of the latest style patterns and very neat. The beautiful charm is also Roman gold, with garnet setting. A most acceptable present for lady or girl, as it is of superior quality and certain to give pleasure to the wearer. The usual store price for necklaces of equal quality is \$2.00.

Get your neighbors to subscribe for this paper, and secure some of these handsome premiums for your trouble.

TONS OF SILVER-PLATED TABLEWARE OFFERED FREE.

This Set is Not for Sale.

6 Tablespoons
6 Teaspoons
1 Butter Knife
1 Sugar Shell

All Mailed

FREE

To any one sending only 5 yearly subscribers to this paper at 50 cents each.



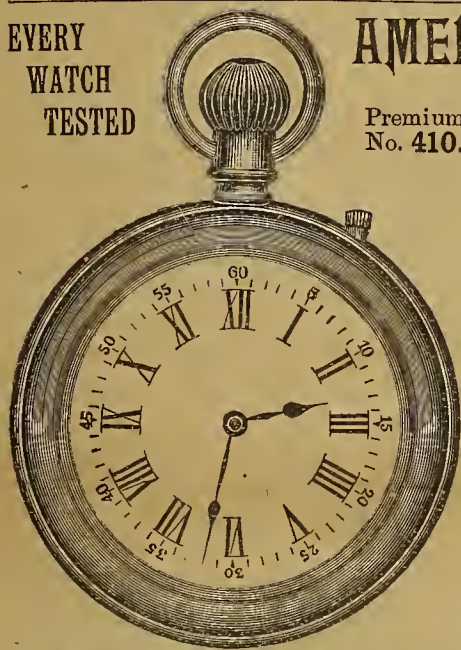
The cuts do not show the full size of the pieces, which are all of the regular size. The tablespoons are not shown at all, but are of the same pattern as the teaspoons.

Premium No. 675.

This useful set of fourteen pieces of silver-plated tableware is a beautiful production of mechanical skill. Viewed from the standpoint of artistic designing, they certainly merit praise. They seem to be just suited to the tastes and needs of our readers, thousands of whom have already testified to their superior excellence and durability. We are confident we have never offered a premium that gave such continuous and unqualified satisfaction. The set is made by a leading American manufacturer, and is first nickeled and then plated with silver. With reasonable care they will last for years. They are durable, useful, beautiful in appearance, and are of a much larger than show appearance. We do not offer the set any way than as a premium to those who send us 5 yearly subscribers. It is not offered for sale at any price. In stores, sets of like quality usually sell for about \$3.00. The very little effort necessary to secure but 5 yearly subscribers should place this beautiful set in the hands of many thousands of our readers. We pay all postage. This offer is good till October, 1892.

BRIGHTEN YOUR TABLE AND BRING CHEER TO THOSE AROUND IT.

EVERY
WATCH
TESTED



AMERICAN MODEL WATCH.

Premium
No. 410.

Only \$4.

Quick Train, Stem-Winding, Direct Acting Hand-Set.

Thoroughly reliable, and will keep time as well as a watch costing \$40.00 or \$50.00.

The case of this watch is made of nickel-silver, and is nickel-plated for the purpose of making a hard-finished surface that cannot be easily scratched. The movements are full plate, quick train, stem winding, with direct acting hand-set. The winding mechanism in most stem-winding watches is frail and very liable to strip the gears when overwound. In our watch this is impossible. The entire watch is constructed for service, all parts being made durable and strong. Every watch is tested at the factory before being sent out. It is put up in a neat box, with felt cushions inside to protect it when being sent through the mails; also, directions for winding, setting and regulating.

Given as a premium for 20 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$4.25.

We offer it for sale for \$4. Postage paid by us in each case.

ROLLED GOLD PLATE SLEEVE-BUTTONS.

The sleeve-buttons we offer this season are all new and handsome designs, and of good quality. The manufacturers warrant them as rolled gold plate. We offer a variety of styles and patterns, and both separable and lever buttons. Buying in very large quantities, we are able to offer them to our subscribers at prices much below the usual cost in stores.



Premium
No. 580.



Premium
No. 581.



Premium
No. 582.



Premium
No. 583.



Premium
No. 584.

These two styles are the popular separable buttons, beautifully engraved and colored gold ornaments. They are rich and handsome, and will retain their good appearance even after being worn a long time.

One pair of either style given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.

Price of either pair, including one year's subscription, \$1.

We offer either pair for sale for 75 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

The above are elegant lever sleeve-buttons. No. 583 has ruby in center and is finely engraved. No. 582 is very neatly engraved and is decorated with colored gold.

One pair of either style given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price of one pair, including one year's subscription, 80 cents.

We offer either pair for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

This is a very neat style of sleeve-button for ladies. Rolled gold plate, with large pearl center.

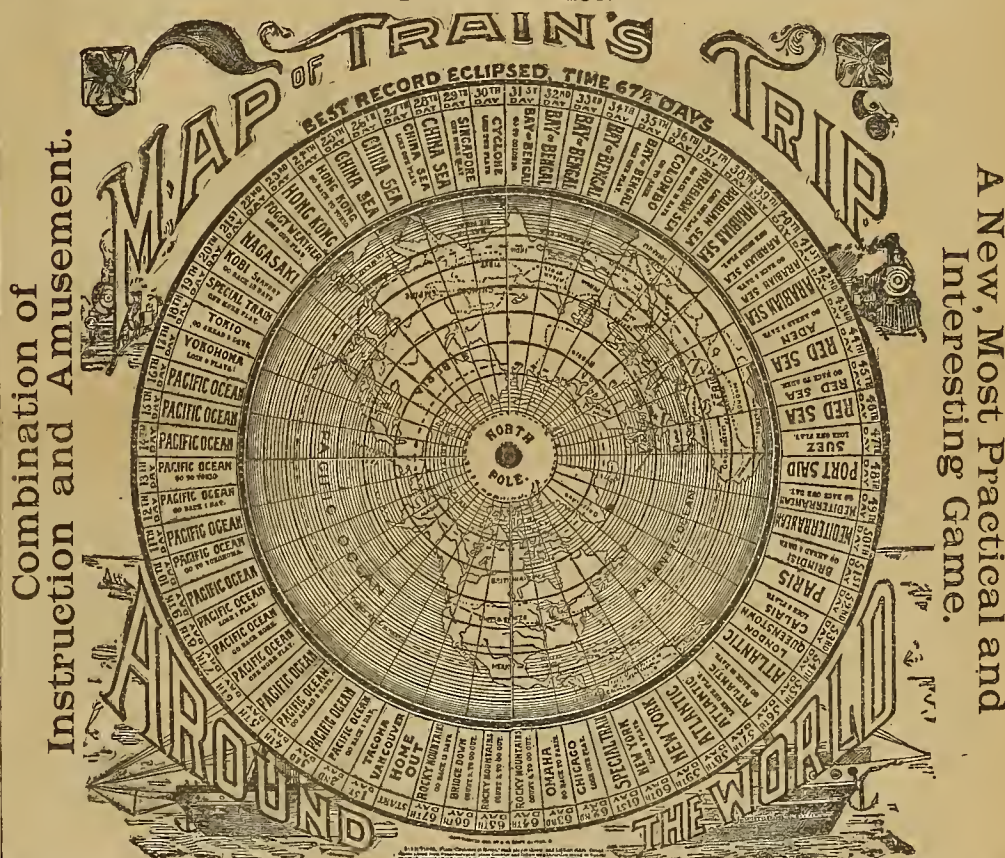
One pair given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 75c.

We offer one pair for sale for 35 cents.

Postage paid by us in each case.

Geographical Game of George Francis Train's Trip Around the World.
Premium No. 483.



The above cut shows in miniature a game 20 1/2 by 21 inches, containing an original map of the Northern Hemisphere. The circumference of the circle is divided into sixty-eight equal divisions, corresponding to the number of days, 67 1/2, consumed by the well-known George Francis Train in his tour. The spaces being numbered consecutively from the start, show also the whereabouts of the tourist on that number of days out, in addition to which the directions to players appear in various spaces; "to go back ten days," "lose one or two throws," etc.

ANY NUMBER OF PERSONS CAN PLAY, USING COUNTERS TO REPRESENT TRAVELERS.

Four different-colored counters are given with each game, with dice-box and one dice. Placing counters at "Home" space, each player throws, and the one counting most spots starts. Counting number of spaces ahead as spots thrown, directions found on space reached are followed; and after following any given direction, no attention is given to any direction on second resting-place. Children in playing this game are sure to become familiar with the geographical portion, and thereby gain lasting instruction. There are four colors, the spaces being alternately red, white and blue, and the map beautifully colored.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Magic Repeating Air-Rifle.

Premium No. 481.

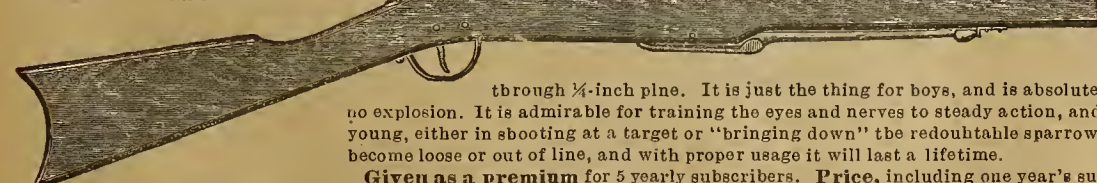
Shoots 150 times without reloading.

The price is less than for the 65-shot rifle offered last year. The appearance and shape of this gun, as shown in the above cut, is that of a regular rifle. It has the greatest amount of effective force possible to get from an exertion in loading not beyond the strength of a small boy, and is so constructed that ammunition for several days' shooting can be stored within the gun itself, one shot at a time dropping into place when required. It shoots 150 times without reloading. It has a heavy brass barrel, heavily nickel-plated; a walnut stock, handsomely finished. This "Magic" air-rifle is the best thing for the money ever made for killing small game or ridding the neighborhood of those pests, the English house sparrow. It will afford hours of sport and recreation, either indoors or out, to ladies, gentlemen and children, in target practice, and make an expert marksman of any one who uses it, the practice being fully as good as shooting with powder and ball. The rifle is a beautiful and effective weapon. Length of gun, 32 inches; weight, 3 pounds; weight, packed ready for shipment, with full directions for using, about 3 1/2 pounds.

Given as a premium for 8 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$2.25.

We offer it for sale for \$2. Must be sent by express. By special arrangement with the express companies, the charges should in no case exceed 75 cents, nor be less than 25 cents, but you will have to pay these charges when the gun is received. Name your express office if different from your post-office.

Premium No. 128.



Challenge Air-Rifle.

The latest and best of the cheap air-guns. It is unsurpassed in simplicity, durability and force. It will shoot a regular BB shot through 1/4-inch pine. It is just the thing for boys, and is absolutely safe, no powder being used and therefore no explosion. It is admirable for training the eyes and nerves to steady action, and affords unlimited amusement to both old and young, either in shooting at a target or "bringing down" the redoubtable sparrow. It is made solid, with no hinges or joints to become loose or out of line, and with proper usage it will last a lifetime.

Given as a premium for 5 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

We offer it for sale for \$1. Sent by express, receiver to pay charges, which will be light. Parties ordering the rifle sent to points distant from Springfield, Ohio, will save money by sending us 40 cents extra, to have it sent by mail. Name your express office if different from your post-office.

Rubber Doll. Premium No. 208.



This is a very pretty little doll, and being made of rubber, will patiently bear all the rough treatment that the little ones are apt to bestow upon it. It wears a knit dress, with cap of the same kind, and whistles when "pressed" to do so.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

We offer it for sale for 35 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

You will do your friends and neighbors a good turn by calling their attention to our paper and premium list. It will be easy to get them to subscribe, and by so doing you will secure some of the valuable articles offered as premiums. Try it at once.

A copy of this paper will be sent free to any one who asks for it. It will save you money.

Wise people will save money by selecting holiday goods from this paper and ordering early.

Rogers * Celebrated * Silver-Plated * Tableware.

These goods have a standard reputation the world over, as the very best. They are made of a hard, white metal, especially adapted for the purpose, extra heavily plated with pure coin silver, and bear the Rogers trade mark. With proper care and usage they will last a lifetime. The pattern is an elegant floral design, pronounced by all who see it as really exquisite in

conception and execution. Few things will give the "gude housewife" so much pleasure as a full set of this handsome and valuable tableware. The different pieces are offered separately. Those who do not want the complete set may accept any of the following offers:

6 Cast-Steel Extra Silver-Plated Knives.



Each knife is made from one piece of solid steel, handsomely and heavily plated with pure silver, bearing the Rogers stamp. The set is sure to give satisfaction, both in appearance and service. With proper care they will last a lifetime.

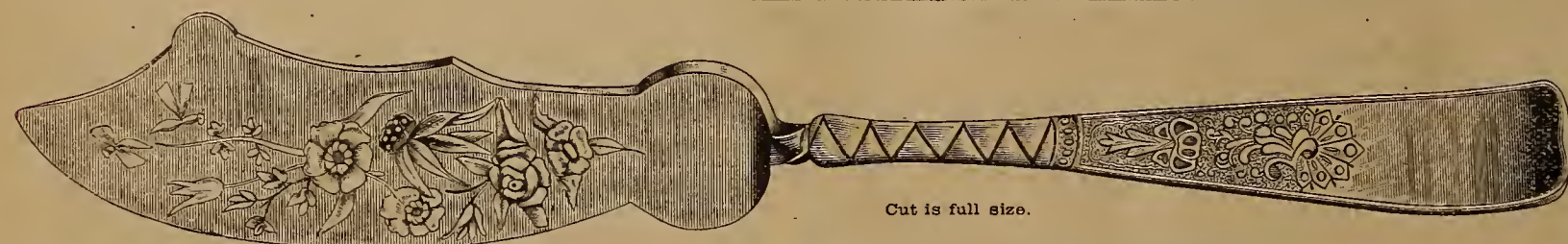
A set of 6 knives given as a premium for 7 yearly subscribers. Price of a set of 6, including one year's subscription, \$2.
We offer the set for sale for \$1.75. Postage paid by us in each case.

6 Extra Silver-Plated Forks.



In this set of beautiful forks our lovely floral design is shown to great advantage. Like all the other goods of this set of tableware, the forks are Rogers make, and will give pleasure and service for many years.

A set of 6 forks given as a premium for 7 yearly subscribers. Price of a set of 6, including one year's subscription, \$2.
We offer the set for sale for \$1.75. Postage paid by us in each case.



EXTRA SILVER-PLATED Butter Knife.

This is certainly a lovely design, and we assure you the goods are even more attractive than the illustration indicates.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including 1 year's subscription, 70c.
We offer it for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

The pattern of this lovely shell corresponds with the butter knife.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



EXTRA SILVER-PLATED Sugar & Shell.



EXTRA SILVER-PLATED 6 Teaspoons.

Premium No. 696.

This elegant, stylish and serviceable set comprises six teaspoons, and they are identical in pattern with the butter knife and sugar shell. They are very superior goods, as are all that bear the name of Rogers.

A set of 6 given as a premium for 5 yearly subscribers. Price of a set of 6, including one year's subscription, \$1.25. We offer the set for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 697.

6 Extra Silver-Plated Tablespoons.

The tablespoons are of exactly the same pattern as the teaspoons, therefore it is unnecessary to show a cut of them. They are the regular size, and, like the other pieces of the set, are plated extra heavy with pure coin silver on pure white metal.

A set of 6 tablespoons given as a premium for 8 yearly subscribers. Price of a set of 6, including one year's subscription, \$2.25.
We offer the set for sale for \$2. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 700 is the Complete Set, Consisting of

6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Tablespoons, 6 Teaspoons, 1 Sugar Shell and 1 Butter Knife.

Twenty-six pieces of elegant and serviceable tableware. The set, or any part of it, would make a handsome and appropriate wedding or holiday gift. Sets like this sell in the stores for \$12.00 to \$18.00. The complete set is sent by express, receiver to pay charges, although parties at a great distance from Springfield, Ohio, can save money by sending us 50 cents extra to pay postage, and get them by mail.

The complete set given as a premium for 23 yearly subscribers.

Price for the complete set, including one year's subscription, \$6.25.

We offer the complete set for sale for \$6. Name your express office, if different from your post-office.

A Good Fountain-Pen for Everybody.

Premium No. 324.



Always Ready for Use. Complete. Useful. Convenient. Because of its great convenience, everybody should carry a fountain-pen, and the only excuse for not doing so has heretofore been the cost of a good one. Now there is no excuse, as the excellent pen we offer is placed within the reach of everybody.

This perfect fountain-pen is a triumph of ingenuity, combining the good features of old styles with new improvements. With this pen in your pocket you are always prepared with pen and ink, at all times and places, and yet it is but little larger than a lead-pencil, and just as convenient for carrying in the pocket. The holder contains a supply of ink that will last the average writer several weeks, and may be refilled with ink in a moment.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.
We offer it for sale for 20 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

One Dozen Lead-Pencils with Rubber Tips. Premium No. 671.



The pencils are much larger than the cut shows, being regular size—7 inches long. The Eagle Perfection Lead-pencils, with Rubber Tips, usually retail in the stores for 5 cents each. Each pencil contains about one inch of the best erasive rubber, which, being encased in wood, is perfectly protected from being soiled, and may also be sharpened to a point for erasing fine lines.
Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.
We offer the package for sale for 20 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

It will pay you to carefully preserve this journal. Your friends can get copies free by writing to us.

Champion Washing-Machine.

Premium No. 461.

WASHING
MADE
EASY.



Made of
White Cedar.

A good washing-machine is a blessing in every household. Every housewife dreads washday, when she knows she must tug and strain for hours over a wash-board and tub. With the "Champion" she finds washday a pleasure, for it will wash as clean as can be done by hand and in one fourth the time, with scarcely any effort whatever. It is so simple in construction that a child who can reach the lever can easily work it and do more washing in two hours than any woman can do in six hours by the old wash-board method. A good hand operating it will do the work of seven women with a tub. The principle of the machine is the expanding of the meshes of the goods, and by the united action of condensed air, steam and suds, and the rapid slushing of the water by means of the corrugated bottom and corrugated breakers, cleanses the material much quicker than can be done by any other process. It is a complete machine, and made of white cedar will last a lifetime with proper care and use.

Given as a premium for 25 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$7.

Must be sent by freight or express, receiver to pay charges, which will be light.

Ladies' Hand-Bag. Premium No. 707.



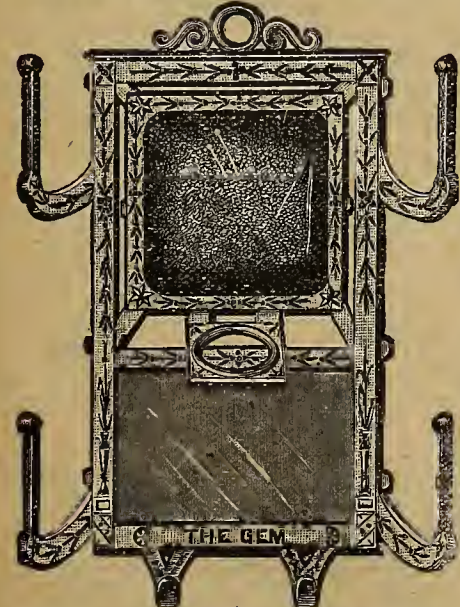
This is the latest style of shopping-bag, both in shape and finish; the lower part is made of fine grain leather, the top is of best quality black satin, the draw-cord and handle of heavy, black silk cord. The bag is perfectly flat when empty, but expands when filled. It presents a very fine and stylish appearance.

Given as a premium for 5 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.40.

We offer it for sale for \$1.25. Postage paid by us in each case.

Gem Sewing Companion. Prem. No. 113.



This convenient household article has places for a thimble, four spools of thread, and two hooks for keys and scissors, plush needle-cushion above and mirror below, making a neat ornament, and helps to keep the old adage, "A place for everything," etc.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

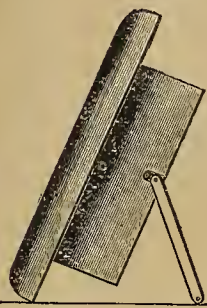
Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer it for sale for 20 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

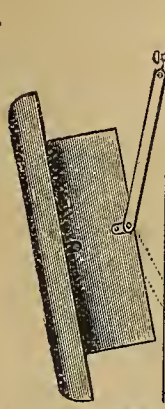


Mantel or Hanging Clock. Premium No. 315.

NEWEST STYLE.



Side View, Showing Clock on Mantel.



Side View, Showing Clock Suspended on Wall.

This latest style Mantel or Hanging Alarm Clock is made by a new process, insuring uniform accuracy as a time-keeper. It is beautifully framed in old-gold finish, and can be placed on the mantel or suspended on the wall. Height, 9 inches.

Given as a premium for 12 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$2.75.

We offer it for sale for \$2.50. Postage paid by us in each case.

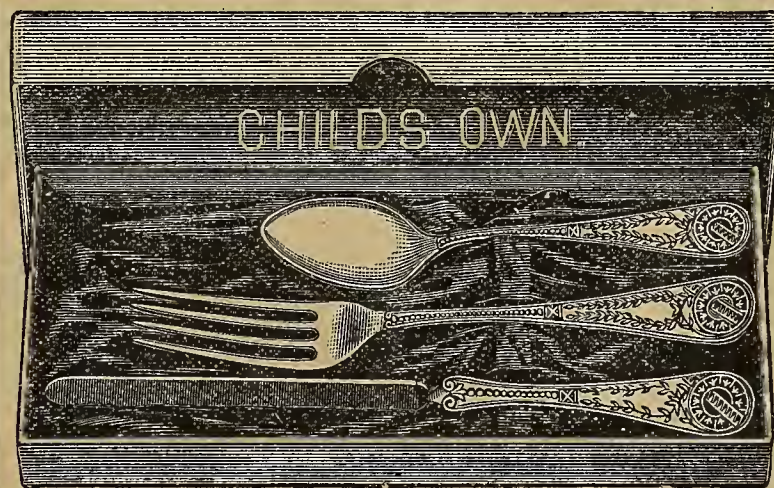
Premium No. 134.



This Duplex Electro-Magnetic Curler and Crimper is, without doubt, the most unique, useful and effective little arrangement for the hair yet invented. It produces all manner of fashionable effects desired by ladies particularly. Being Electro-Magnetic, the Curls, Crimps or Bangs last longer and are unaffected by damp weather. Ladies who have been experimenting with the many Comb Curlers or Crimping-tongs without success, are cordially invited to try this wonderful little appliance. Gentlemen will find it a most effective instrument for curling the moustache or beard.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 90 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



Silver-Plated
Knife, Fork
and Spoon.

Prem. No. 274.

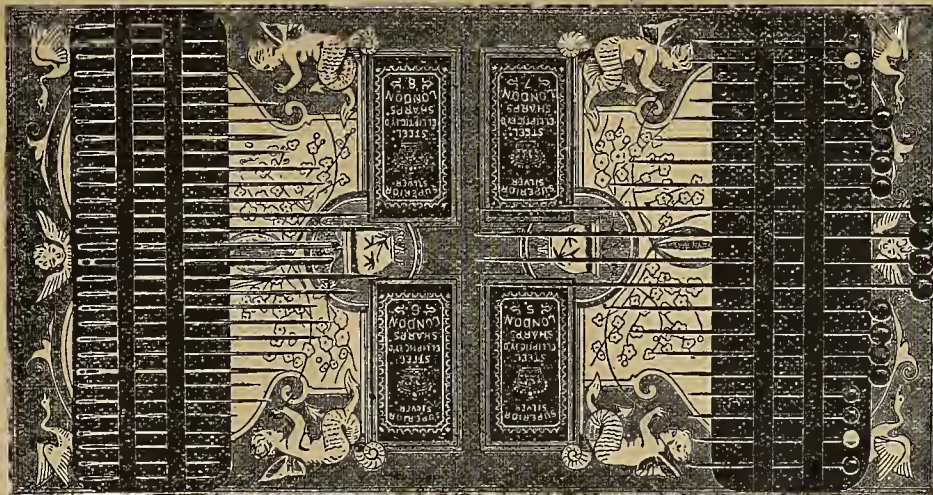
This beautiful child's set is just the thing for a birthday or Christmas present to that little boy or girl of yours.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Nonpareil Needle and Toilet Pin Case. Premium No. 670.



This case contains 150 Best Imported Elliptic, Large-eyed Needles and Toilet-Pins. It is the most valuable case we ever offered and always gives satisfaction. In stores its contents retail as follows:

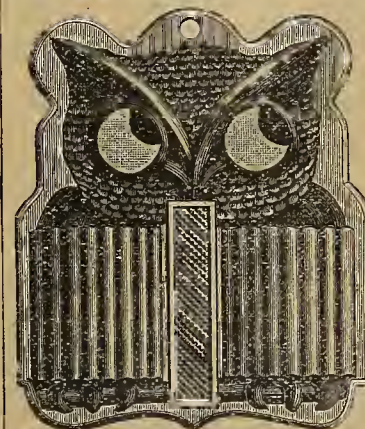
4 Papers Needles, 25 in each.....	20 cents.	1 Highly Polished Steel Bodkin.....	2 cents.
4 Bonnet-Pins, each 5 inches long, steel-blue, head heads.....	12 "	1 Highly Polished Steel Tape Needle.....	2 "
8 Shawl-Pins, steel-blue, head heads.....	8 "	1 Motto Needle.....	1 "
8 Toilet-Pins, steel-blue.....	8 "	1 Chenille Needle.....	1 "
2 Straw or Milliner Needles.....	2 "	1 Glover's or Fur Needle.....	1 "
2 Carpet Needles.....	2 "	2 Long, Coarse, Wool Darners.....	2 "
2 Crewel Needles.....	2 "	2 Medium Wool Darners.....	2 "
2 Sack or Bagging Needles.....	2 "	2 Long Cotton Darners.....	2 "
3 Coarse Button Needles.....	3 "	2 Fine Cotton Darners.....	2 "
1 Worsteds Needle.....	1 "	2 Coarse Yarn Darners.....	2 "
1 Tapestry Needle.....	1 "	2 Extra Fine Cotton or Silk Darners.....	2 "
Total store price.....	50 cents.		

This Needle Case, when open, is four times as large as the above illustration. When closed, it has on the outside cover a handsome lithograph picture. It is an elegant piece of lithographic work in many colors, and cannot fail to take the lead over other needle packages. The advantages of these needles are that they have large elliptic eyes, are easy to thread; the silver steel is hardened in oil and will not bend, and the eyes are drilled and burnished, which prevents cutting of the thread. We guarantee these will not break or bend with ordinary use, and believe them to be superior to any other needle.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Owl Match-Safe. Premium No. 702.



There is many a stubbed toe that can testify to the absolute need of a match safe like this. The safe is made of strong, bronze metal, and the owl's eyes are the guide to the match safe, as they will shine plainly all night by some mysterious action that absorbs light all day and gives it out at night.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer it for sale for 15 cents, or two for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

A New Kitchen Knife. Prem. No. 39.



A WOMAN'S
INVENTION.

This very handy kitchen tool should be in every house. Useful for chopping potatoes while warming, turning griddle-cakes, eggs, fish, etc., skimming milk, scraping kettles, or for removing cookies from tins, cutting cakes, dough, vegetables, etc. In fact, the happy possessor will find a new use for it almost every day. The shape of the knife is such that a cutting edge, several inches long, is brought into use, and it has the same advantage for skimming milk. The blade is of thin sheet steel, being wide and flexible, enabling a person to easily turn articles without breaking them. Has a neat handle of copper wire. Thousands sold, and all praise it highly.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 20 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Choice Perfumes.

Premium No. 133.



This package contains four bottles of sweet-scented Handkerchief Extract, guaranteed to be the very purest. The odors, selected for their delicacy and lasting properties, and representing the popular choice of the ladies, are as follows: "White Rose," "Heliotrope," "Jockey Club" and "Arbuta," the last a product of the fragrant Arbutus, the gem of early spring flowers. They have been specially prepared for us by a distinguished chemist. The bottles are neatly labeled and securely packed. Every young lady needs this extract package, as well as every rising young man. It is not out of place even with older people who appreciate a most fragrant atmosphere.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Plush Dressing-Case. Premium No. 58.



This is a handsome toilet-case with padded, beveled top, covered with silk plush of the latest and most fashionable colors. The brush, comb and mirror are all of the finest quality. "Ivoroyed" is a beautiful white composition, very durable and strong. The mirror is fine, bevel plate, the brush has good bristles, and the case is satin-lined. The backs and handles of the brush and mirror are ornamented with raised designs of vines and sprays of flowers. It is suitable for a birthday, Christmas or wedding present, and is always a handsome ornament to any one's bureau or dressing-case.

Given as a premium for 7 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.75.

We offer it for sale for \$1.50. Postage paid by us in each case.

Improved Double-Action
Rotary Egg-Beater.
Premium No. 175.

This is one of the latest improved and very best of egg-beaters, and as an economizer has worked wonders in the kitchen. It will beat the whites of two eggs in ten seconds. It will so thoroughly beat the whites of six eggs in twenty seconds that the bowl may be inverted without any of the egg falling.

Properly aerated or beaten with this beater, a single egg will perform the work of three or four imperfectly done. When one egg is made to do the work of three, the economy of using a perfect beater is apparent and the price no object. It is equally valuable for eggs, cake or salad cream. Has no joints or rivets to get loose, and all the parts perfectly fitted and substantially made. Cleaned instantly.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



Spring Balances.

Premium No. 6.



These scales have a polished brass front, are accurate, and will weigh anything from eight ounces to twenty-four pounds, making one of the most convenient as well as necessary articles for household use. Every family should be prepared to weigh the packages of groceries and other supplies that are almost daily purchased. All the various parts are well made and will wear for years.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer them for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

A \$55.00 Sewing Machine

FOR
Only
\$17,

Including One Year's
Subscription to
this Paper.



The
Best Bargain
Ever Offered
in Sewing
Machines.

A \$45.00 SEWING MACHINE FOR \$14,

Including One Year's Subscription to this Paper.

Our readers exclusively enjoy the special privilege of obtaining these good Sewing Machines at the low prices named. The success that has followed these machines, and the great satisfaction they give to purchasers, warrants us in saying that the Chicago

SINGER SEWING MACHINE

Is the best machine in the world for the money. We desire to please our readers and to save them all the money possible, and in these machines give them all of the middlemen's profits. This machine is made after the latest models of the Singer machines, and is a perfect fac-simile in shape, ornamentation and appearance. All the parts are made to gage exactly the same as the Singer, and are constructed of precisely the same materials.

The utmost care is exercised in the selection of the metals used, and only the very best quality is purchased. Each machine is thoroughly well made and is fitted with the utmost nicety and exactness, and no machine is permitted by the inspector to go out of the shops until it has been fully tested and proved to do perfect work, and run light and without noise.

The CHICAGO SINGER MACHINE has a very important improvement in a Loose Balance-Wheel, so constructed as to permit winding bobbins without removing the work from the machine.

The Loose Balance-Wheel is actuated by a solid bolt passing through a collar securely pinned to the shaft outside of the balance-wheel, which bolt is firmly held to position by a strong spiral spring. When a bobbin is to be wound, the bolt is pulled out far enough to release the balance-wheel, and turned slightly to the right or left, where it is held by a stop-pin until the bobbin is filled. Where the machine is liable to be meddled with by children, the bolt can be left out of the wheel when not in use, so that the machine cannot be operated by the treadle. The thread eyelet and the needle clamp are made SELF-THREADING, which is a very good convenience.

Each Machine, of whatever Style, is Furnished with the Following Attachments

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 FOOT HEMMER. | 6 HEMMERS, all different widths. | 1 SCREW-DRIVER. |
| 1 FOOT RUFFLER. | 1 WRENCH. | 1 GAGE. |
| 1 TUCKER. | 1 THREAD CUTTER. | 1 GAGE SCREW. |
| 1 PACKAGE OF NEEDLES. | 1 BINDER. | 1 OIL-CAN, filled with Oil. |
| 1 CHECK SPRING. | 5 BOBBINS. | 1 INSTRUCTION BOOK. |
| 1 THROAT PLATE. | | |

The driving-wheel on this machine is admitted to be the simplest, easiest running and most convenient of any. The machine is self-threading, has the very best tension and thread liberator, is made of the best material, with the wearing parts hardened, and is finished in a superior style. It has veneered walnut cover, drop-leaf table, 4 end drawers and center swing drawer. The rich, nickel-plated trimmings harmonize with the general handsome appearance of this machine.

THE MANUFACTURERS WARRANT EVERY MACHINE FOR FIVE YEARS

For \$14. Premium No. 120 is the low-arm Chicago Singer Sewing Machine, and is offered, together with this paper one year, for only \$14. Or, it is given free as a premium for 60 yearly subscribers to this paper; or for 30 yearly subscribers and \$7 additional.

For \$17. Premium No. 486 is the high-arm Chicago Singer Sewing Machine, and is offered, together with this paper one year, for only \$17.

Both of the above machines are alike in all particulars, and each have the same attachments, except that No. 486 has a high arm, while No. 120 has a low arm. In some families the low-arm machine will do as well as the other; but those who do a good deal of dressmaking, and sewing of large garments, will find it most convenient to have the additional space afforded by the high arm.

The machine is sent by freight, receiver to pay freight charges, which will be light. Give name of freight station, if different from your post-office address.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS FROM SUBSCRIBERS WHO ARE USING THE MACHINE.

NEW MIDWAY, Md., March 16, 1891.
I received the premium High-Arm Singer Sewing Machine and am much pleased with it. Have tried it and find it number one. Would not take \$55.00 cash for it. I thank you for your promptness and honest dealing. It also affords me much pleasure showing it to my friends.
ALICE STRINE.

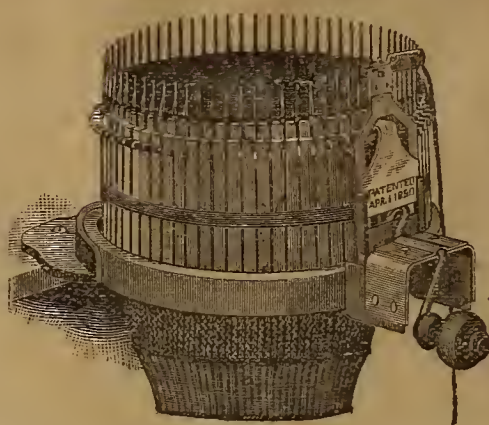
NEW LISBON, OHIO, March 10, 1891.
I received the Singer Sewing Machine all right and am well pleased with it so far. It certainly is a cheap machine, and I think you will sell more like it. The agents around here are getting uneasy, thinking they are getting left. The freight was only thirty-nine cents. I hope you will sell many. I will do what I can for you.
MRS. JENNIE KERR.

WHEELERSBURG, Ohio, April 16, 1891.
I have received my Singer Sewing Machine and am perfectly satisfied with it. Have tried it and would not take \$45.00 for it now.
MRS. LIZZIE ANDRE.

CENTER POINT, W. Va., May 5, 1890.
We received the Sewing Machine in good order. My wife is delighted with it; it works like a charm. It is equal in every way to machines bought by our neighbors for \$50.00. Many thanks for your kindness, your promptness, and for the fair, honest way you have dealt with me. I am a hard-working farmer, and it gives me great pleasure to deal with good men.
J. W. HAWKINS.

The Peoples' Knitting-Machine.

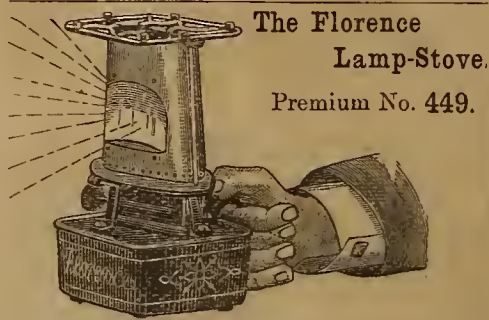
Premium No. 564.



This is a practical Knitting-Machine adapted to the wants of the household. A great variety of work can be done on it, such as leggins, hoods, wristlets, stockings, mittens, tidies, lamp-mats, etc., etc.; in fact, nearly all articles needed in the family from homespun or factory yarn. Any one with ordinary intelligence can learn to operate it. Every family should have one and thereby save money.

Given as a premium for 25 subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$6. Must be sent by express, receiver to pay charges, which will be light. Name express office when different from post-office address.



The Florence
Lamp-Stove.

Premium No. 449.

You can boil a quart of water on this stove in eight minutes. There is no smoke or offensive odor. It is invaluable for a sick-room or when a quick heat is wanted at night. It is perfectly safe, can be carried, lighted, around the house with perfect safety and with no danger of leakage, breaking or explosion. Nothing can be nicer to heat a flat-iron quickly. It will keep flowers, fruits and potatoes in your cellars without any danger of frosting, at very small expense. Price is very low.

Lamp-stove must be sent by express, you to pay charges, but the cost will be slight—from 25 cents to 60 cents to any point within 800 miles of us.

Given as a premium for 5 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.50.

We offer it for sale for \$1.25. Name express office when different from post-office address.

Folding Lamp-Shade.

Premium
No. 569.



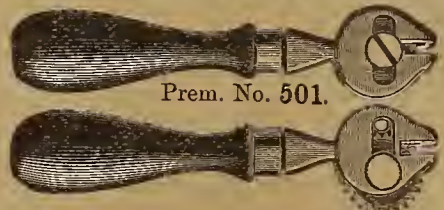
This handsome shade, which has had a large sale (over 100,000 in sixty days), has been improved so that it does not require a separate shade-clasp. When folded it is less than one fourth of an inch thick, and can be carried in the pocket. Ornamented in a variety of designs and colors.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer it for sale for 20 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Cole's Combined Sewing-Ripper, Buttonhole and Pattern Cutter.



Prem. No. 501.

Saves Time, Eyesight, Patience and Goods. This cut shows two handles, but only one is sent, for either cutter can be changed in ten seconds. One cut has the Ripper in place, the other cut shows Marker for patterns in place. No more wearisome picking out of stitches, nor cutting of cloth. With this little tool you can rip much faster than a machine can sew, with no danger of injuring the fabric.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

We offer it for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Japanese Bamboo Table and Lamp Mats.

Premium No. 81.

These are very elegant and novel articles. They are made from Japanese bamboo held together with silk, and elegantly decorated with flowers and birds. They are especially desirable for the dining-table or sideboard, to set dishes on or for the coffee or tea pot, parlor table or bureau, or to place ornaments on. They are very useful as well as ornamental, and set off a table very stylishly. The cut shows only one mat, but the set consists of three different sizes—7, 8 and 9½ inches in diameter. We cannot sell less than one set.

Set of three given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price of set, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer one set for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Convertible Wire Basket. Prem. 639.



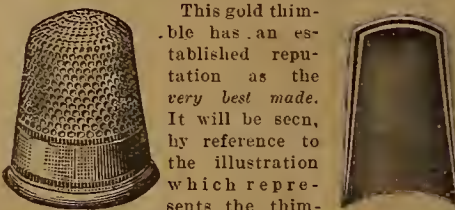
A great novelty and one of the most useful inventions. Can be put in a hundred different shapes, and used for as many different purposes. Is decidedly ornamental in any shape, being made of the best spring steel wire and heavily plated. The cut shows its shapes as card-receiver, lamp-shade, water-heater, flower-pot holder, sad-iron stand and egg-boiler. We have not room to show all its uses.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Gold Thimble. Premium No. 132.



This gold thimble has an established reputation as the very best made. It will be seen, by reference to the illustration which represents the thimble cut in half, that it is very much thicker where the most wear comes. The dark line running around the edge of this illustration, in the middle of the white space, represents the stiffening between the two layers of Solid Gold, one being on the outside and the other on the inside of the thimble. It is made from one piece, without a seam or joint, and by a peculiar process is made extremely hard and durable. It is warranted to wear twice as long as the best solid gold thimble, while the cost is only about one third as much. It is also the best fitting, the best to wear and the handsomest thimble ever made. Just the thing for a holiday or birthday present, because it is not only ornamental but useful. Nothing can be more appropriate as a token of affection.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.

We offer it for sale for 60 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Gem Vegetable-Masher and Lemon-Squeezer. Premium No. 131.

A simple and effective device for mashing vegetables and squeezing lemons. Every housekeeper will appreciate it. There are no lumps in the potatoes after using the "Gem." Equally useful for turnips, apples, tomatoes, etc. As a lemon-squeezer it is simply perfect.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Shawl-Strap. Premium No. 26.



Everybody knows how handy a shawl-strap is. It is wanted for some purpose or other almost every day in the year. The one we offer is made of good, strong leather with a backbone able to stand any amount of wear.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 20 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Wire Hair-Brush. Premium No. 142.



This is a very handsome brush, as you see, and would be an ornament to any bureau or dresser. The wire pins are fastened securely under rubber cloth, and will yield and bend in any direction. We offer the brush at a low price; it would cost 75 cents or \$1 in the stores.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 80 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



You will lose money if you lose this paper. Keep it all the year round.

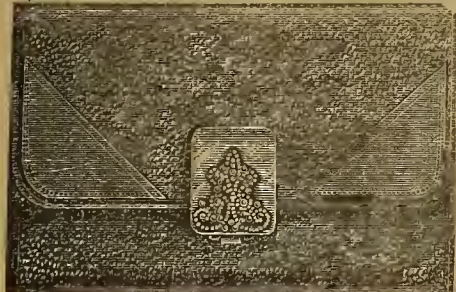
Ladies' Pocket-Book. Premium No. 195.



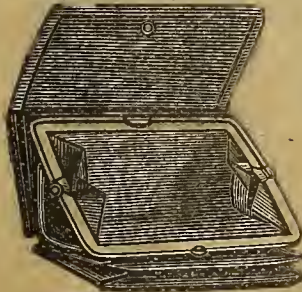
This handsome pocket-book is one of the very latest styles and has already become very popular. It is well made, of genuine leather. In the cut the pocket-book is open, showing the inside coin-pocket. Has nickel frame, with the popular spring catch. Although our artist gives a good illustration of the pocket-book, a proper appreciation of its real value and elegant appearance can only be had on examination of the book itself.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.
Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.
We offer it for sale for 40 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Ladies' Pocket-Book. Premium No. 203.



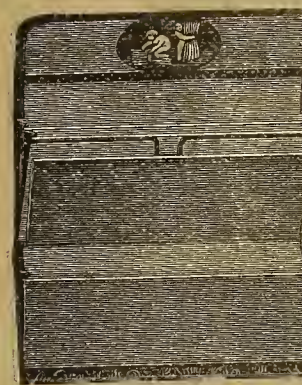
This was selected from a great variety by ladies of taste as the one purse that combined beauty, convenience and safety. The smaller cut shows the arrangement of the new coin-bag, contained in this book, which, used in conjunction with a deep frame, enables



a lady with gloved hands to reach the bottom of the coin-bag, and at the same time the inside flaps guard against the possibility of losing the specie. It has four other pockets besides the patent coin-bag. The best of leather is used, and beautifully finished with oxidized silver clasp and tipped corners. This is one of the popular styles.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.
Price, including one year's subscription, 90 cents.
We offer it for sale for 70 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Gents' Bill Book. Premium No. 537.

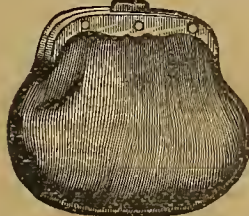


Size, Closed, 3 1/2 x 5 Inches.

book, and one that will give good service.

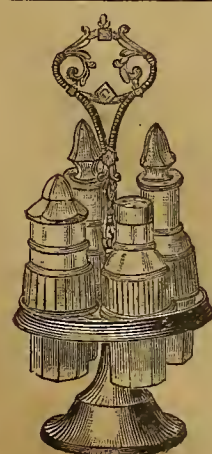
Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.
Price, including one year's subscription, 90 cents.
We offer it for sale for 75 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Coin Purse. Premium No. 183.



It has no superior for the price, and it is recommended as the best receptacle made for carrying coin. It is made of soft leather, with two pockets. The catch is the best made, and is known as the three-ball frame, nicked and polished.

With this catch you can open one pocket at a time or both at once.
Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.
Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.
We offer it for sale for 20 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



Toy Caster.

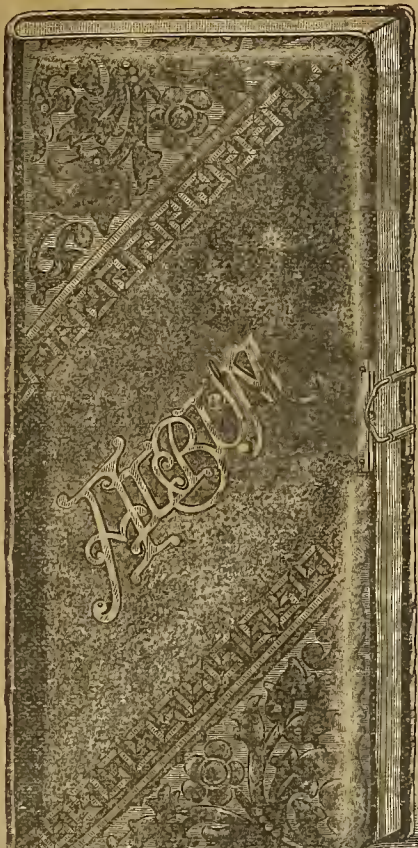
Premium No. 312.

A toy that is sure to please a child. It is made of bright Britannia metal with four glass bottles and four Britannia stoppers. It is a wonderful help to the little boys and girls when they wish to give a successful "tea party," and is a substantial toy.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.
Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer it for sale for 20 cents.
Postage paid by us in each case.

Photograph Album. Premium No. 547.

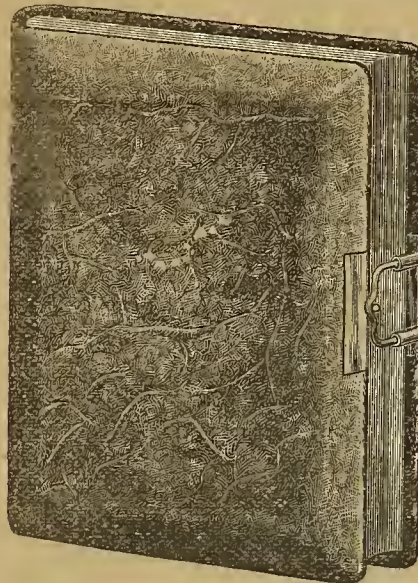


We offer the very latest style of photograph album—the Longfellow shape. It is sixteen inches long, seven inches wide, and is designed for cabinet photos only, having places for thirty-six. Every page is tinted and illuminated with gold borders and gilt edges. It has a fine quality of silk plush, with padded sides, and has the word "Album," in brightly polished nickel, inscribed on front cover. The design on the corners is very beautifully stamped in gold and silver, making the embossed border and scroll work stand out in bold relief. This book has the patent spring clasp, nickel-plated, which always holds the covers together whether full of pictures or not.

Given as a premium for 8 yearly subscribers.
Price, including one year's subscription, \$2.00.
We offer it for sale for \$1.75. Postage paid by us in each case.

Plush Photograph Album.

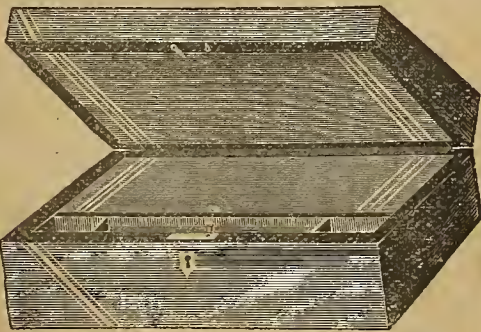
Premium No. 642.



We offer a fine quality Garnet Plush Album, with padded sides and gilt edges. It has places for 24 cabinets and 16 card photographs. Every page is tinted and illuminated with gold borders. This book has the patent spring clasp, nickel-plated, which always holds the covers together whether full of pictures or not. The word "Album" is on the cover, in brightly polished metal, as shown in cut of Premium No. 547. Nothing is more sure to please or more appropriate for a present than one of these albums.

Given as a premium for 8 yearly subscribers.
Price, including one year's subscription, \$2.
We offer it for sale for \$1.75. Postage paid by us in each case.

Wood Writing-Desk. Premium No. 108.



This is a very neat and finely polished desk, with beveled edges. The center of the top is handsomely decorated with imitation pearl ornament. The inside is fitted with special places for inks, pens and pencils, and two for paper and envelopes. The writing surface is covered with plush and makes a smooth, pleasant surface upon which to write. The box is 11 1/2 by 16 inches when open. It contains a handsome inkstand. It is very strong and well made, and has lock and key.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.
Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.
We offer it for sale for \$1. Sent by express, receiver to pay charges, which will be from 25 to 40 cents, according to distance. Or send us 40 cents extra and we will send the box by mail, postpaid. Name your express office if different from your post-office address.

DECORATED CHINA DINNER AND TEA SET.

78 PIECES

ONLY

\$10.

Genuine Porcelain China.

Premium No. 412.



The Regular Store Price is \$18.00 to \$25.00.

The extraordinary bargain here offered can only be appreciated by those who see this beautiful set of dishes. After an examination of the manufactures of the potteries of this country, and the wares of the leading importers, this set is offered as absolutely the handsomest and most serviceable to be obtained anywhere for only \$10. It will supply the wants of the average family, either as a dinner or tea set. The Porcelain China is much whiter, clearer and richer in appearance than the stone china. All the pieces have gold bands and are delicately and beautifully ornamented with the twining jessamine, in colors, the handles and lids of the dishes also being prettily traced with gold. Neither words nor pictures can do justice to the elegant appearance of these dishes, which are sure to please the most fastidious.

THE 78 PIECES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1 Large Covered Dish—2 pieces. | 1 Teapot—2 pieces. | 1 Sugar Bowl—2 pieces. | 1 Slop Bowl. |
| 1 Large Vegetable Dish. | 1 Cream Pitcher. | 1 Butter Dish—3 pieces. | 12 Cups. |
| 12 Plates—each 9 1/2 inches. | 1 Gravy Boat. | 1 16-inch Meat Platter. | 12 Saucers. |
| 12 Individual Butters. | 1 Pickle Plate. | 1 12-inch Meat Platter. | 12 Desserts. |
| 2 Bread or Cake Plates—each 10 inches. | | | |

The great advantage and economy of having a combination Dinner and Tea Set of this kind is that it obviates the necessity of having two complete sets of expensive dishes; for while ours furnishes you with a large dinner set, by dispensing with the use of some of the pieces you have a complete tea set.

Nowhere else can you find a set equaling this in size, quality and sterling worth, at so low a price. Each set is securely packed in a barrel, and must be sent by express or freight, receiver to pay charges, which will be light. Name your express or freight station if different from your post-office address.

Given as a premium for 40 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$10.

PLAIN WHITE IRONSTONE CHINA DINNER AND TEA SET.

Premium No. 330.

This set also has 78 pieces, the same pieces as in the above Decorated Porcelain China Set, but of another popular shape. It is Ironstone China, a most serviceable ware, and for a good, all-around set of dishes, for constant use, is much better than can be bought in the stores at our price. This set is also made up so that it can be used either as a dinner set or tea set.

Given as a premium for 25 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$6.
Each set is securely packed in a barrel, and must be sent by express or freight, receiver to pay charges, which will be light. Name your express or freight station if different from your post-office address.

A Genuine Featherbone Corset.

Prem. No. 683.

This Corset is boned with Featherbone, which is absolutely unbreakable, and not affected by perspiration or laundering. It is made of the very best material throughout, and is elegantly hand-finished. No side steels are used, as the Featherbone gives sufficient stay, and the steel or iron not only rust, thus damaging the garment, but are injurious to health. Requires no "breaking in," as Featherbone gives to the form the elastic support desired, without being harsh, stiff or uncomfortable. It will not break over the hips, and is practically a health Corset. Elegant in appearance, and of the latest style, it must be seen and worn to be appreciated.

We have priced Corsets in first-class stores and do not believe that a better one can be bought for \$1.25.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.
Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.10. Postage paid by us. In either case, if any size larger than No. 30 is wanted, 25 cents extra must be sent.

Order by the Premium No. 683, and always state size wanted.

Featherbone Corset Waist. Prem. No. 646.

Many ladies prefer the Waist Corset instead of the regular corset, as it is softer, more pliable and lighter. It is essentially a health corset. Corded and boned with Featherbone. All the good points of the above corset are also included in this Waist. It has the new patented expansion busts.

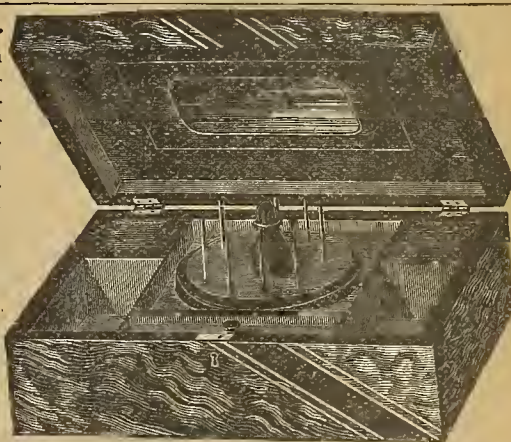
Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.10.
Postage paid by us in each case. The waist is furnished any size from 18 to 30.
Order by the Premium No. 646, and always state the size wanted.

Ladies' Work-Box. Premium No. 166.

This beautiful box is made of imitation French burl, finely polished and varnished. The top is ornamented with black and gilt stripes. The inside is fitted with two cushions, one for needles and one for pins; also an adjustable spool stand, with places for eight spools of thread, which can be dropped into the box when not in use. It also has three partitions for buttons and all other essentials needed by the dainty house mistress. The top of the box holds a mirror. When closed it is 10 by 7 1/2 inches and 3 1/2 inches in height. Has lock and key.

Given as a premium for 5 yearly subscribers.
Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.50.

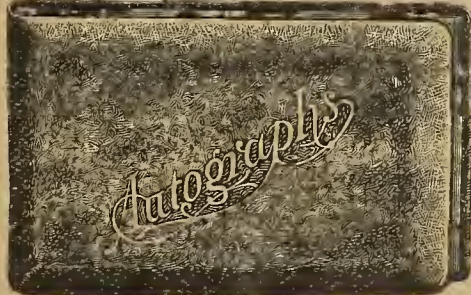
We offer it for sale for \$1.25. Sent by express, receiver to pay charges, which will be from 25 to 40 cents, according to distance. Or send us 30 cents extra and we will send the box by mail, postpaid. Name your express office if it is different from your post-office address.



Autograph Album. Premium No. 714.

This handsome autograph album is covered with a fine quality of silk velvet, with padded sides and has the word "Autographs" in nickel inscribed on front cover, as shown in cut. It has 48 pages with gilt edges, also a fine lithograph title page. It will be a pleasure indeed to possess so handsome an album as this. It must be seen to be appreciated.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.
Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.
We offer it for sale for 40 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



If you want to save money, you will carefully preserve this paper, and use it often.

Our "Artistic" Stamping Outfit. Prem. No. 353.

"Every Pattern a Gem of Art."

The designs are new and artistic and were made expressly for this great outfit. Each pattern is perforated in the finest manner on Linen Parchment Bond Paper, each sheet being 14x22 inches in size, and with but four exceptions each pattern occupies a whole sheet of paper. These patterns are larger and finer than have ever before been offered in a stamping outfit, and but a few stores in the large cities that make a specialty of fine patterns can show so fine an assortment of artistic patterns as are contained in this outfit.

The patterns being new are all especially adapted for the class of work now so popular, comprising a beautiful assortment of designs for Outlining, Applique, and Conching with Rope Silk, appropriate for Ties, Lambrequins, Table Covers, Handkerchiefs and Blotting-Cases, Cushions, Tray-cloths, Splashes, etc., etc. The illustration shows, in greatly reduced size, one of the medium-sized patterns in this outfit, the pattern being 8x16 inches in size. Our limited space prevents our showing illustrations of other patterns, but we assure our readers that in this outfit we are giving more actual value, better designs and finer patterns than can be purchased for three times our price in any first-class pattern store in the country, and it is only by having them made in very large quantities that we are enabled to offer this collection for so little. With each outfit is sent a complete Manual of Instructions for doing all kinds of Stamping, with information enabling any one to make a success of the stamping business from the very start, telling how much to charge for stamping, the care of patterns, etc. Also, one box of Black Stamping Powder, one box of White Stamping Powder, and two Pads for doing the stamping, the whole carefully packed in a handsome case over 14 inches in length.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25. We offer it for sale for only \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

Our "Dainty" Stamping Outfit.

Premium No. 424.



60 Latest, Elegant Designs and Beautiful Alphabet, Complete.

The best and most useful Stamping Outfit in the market for the price. Each pattern is carefully made on the best linen parchment paper and can be used a thousand times without injury, for either paint or powder stamping. Look at the list of choice designs, and note sizes:

1 Cup and Saucer like illustration, and designs for each corner of a Tray-cloth, consisting of 1 Cup and Saucer, 1 Tea-pot, 1 Sugar-bowl and 1 Pitcher; 1 design, Girl with Basket, 9 inches high; 1 beautiful cluster of Pansies and Ferns, 9 inches high; 1 design, Carnation Pinks, 9 inches high; 1 bunch of Morning Glories, 6 inches high; 1 cluster of Clover Blossoms, 6 inches high; 1 full Alphabet, handsome, full-size letters for Towels, Napkins, etc.; 1 bunch of Fuchsias, 5 inches high; 1 spray of Wild Roses, 6 inches high; 2 sprays of Forget-me-nots; 1 large and beautiful corner design of Wild Roses; 1 Star; 1 large and beautiful corner design of Nasturtiums; 3 designs for Flannel Embroidery; 3 Braiding Patterns, one two inches; 1 vine of Daisies; 2 Rosebuds; 2 Daisies; 1 Violet; 1 Lilies-of-the-Valley; 1 Head of Girl; 1 Cat; 1 Anchor; 2 Butterflies; 2 Birds; 2 Owls on a Branch; 1 large Spider's Web; 1 design of Plums; 3 designs of Berries; 1 Ear of Corn; 1 Turkey on Platter; 1 design of Cherries.

Besides these there are several small designs. We send with the outfit one box of powder, one pad and a book of instructions how to do stamping successfully and profitably. Many ladies have been enabled to build up a snug little business through our instructions. This outfit contains patterns of more actual value for practical use than many advertised at \$1.00 each. Every pattern clear, distinct and of full size for working.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

We offer it for sale for 40 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Our Nursery Ball. Premium No. 712.



There is hardly a home into which this paper finds admission that has not a cradle with its little tenant of innocence and purity. This ball, when shaken ever so lightly, will produce a merry jingle of Swiss bells, which discounts anodyne and soothing syrups of every kind in making the little cherub forget its pain as it looks wonderingly at the bright colors of the wood or its ear catches the music of the bells.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

We offer it for sale for 35 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

How to Knit and What to Knit.

Prem. No. 123.



This is the title of an illustrated book of 80 pages, giving complete instructions for knitting of all kinds. Invaluable to the beginner, as well as useful to those who are experienced. Contains numerous illustrations of plain and fancy work.

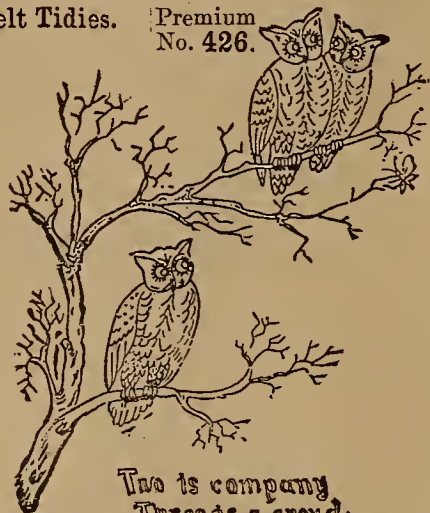
Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Felt Ties.

Premium No. 426.



Two is company. Three is a crowd.

All stamped ready to be worked. These elegant ties are made of the finest quality of embroidery felt, 14 by 18 inches in size, and come in any color you may select, and are all stamped ready to be worked. The design you can choose yourself, and can have for Kensington Embroidery, Kensington or Luster Painting, Arthur Embroidery, Ribbon Work, Tinsel Work, or anything else you wish. With these ties we give also a book teaching the stitches used in Art Embroidering, giving such clear and explicit descriptions as to be easily understood. It also tells how to do Kensington and Luster Painting.

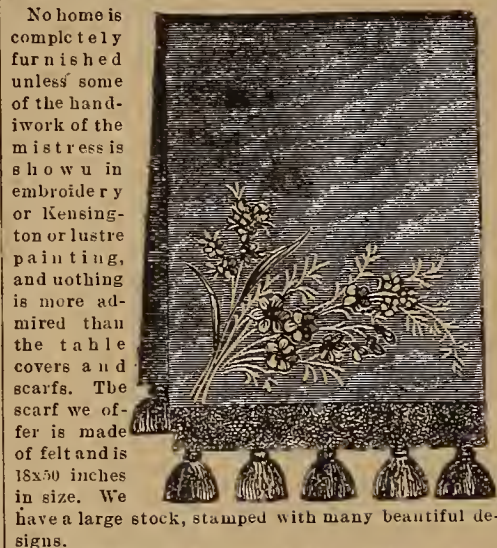
Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Felt Table Scarfs.

Premium No. 557.



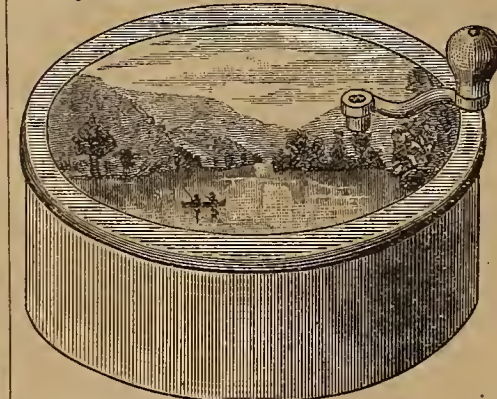
No home is completely furnished unless some of the handiwork of the mistress is shown in embroidery or Kensington or Luster painting, and nothing is more admired than the table covers and scarfs. The scarf we offer is made of felt and is 18x50 inches in size. We have a large stock, stamped with many beautiful designs.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.

We offer it for sale for 80 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Daisy Music-Box. Premium No. 309.



This Daisy Music-box plays one tune, but plays it good, and the tones it gives are full and sweet, and as lively as your fingers want to make them. They are put up in round, decorated boxes and made to wear, and this is decidedly important. A good many small sums are invested in tin whistles, rattles, etc., whose values are nothing, as they are soon broken; whereas, a music-box like this, costing but a trifle over these cheap toys, will last for years with any care whatever, and always be a source of amusement, both to young and old. That so small an instrument can make so much harmonious sound will always be a source of wonder to the fortunate possessor of our music-box.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.

We offer it for sale for 75 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

PROFESSOR MOODY'S PERFECTING TAILOR SYSTEM OF DRESS CUTTING.

The Moody System of Dress Cutting is Indispensable for Home Dressmaking.



It is known and used throughout the world. Do you wish to know how a dress or other garment should be made? Would you like to be able to cut any garment, any style, for grown people or children, with very little trouble and with the absolute certainty of its fitting without trying on? You can do so if you have the Moody Perfecting System of Dress Cutting. By it you can cut every style of dress or other garment by the common square, which is so arranged that any one can take the diagrams, which are made on strong cardboard of best quality, and by following the instructions, which are all well illustrated and printed on each, cut a complete dress from neck to floor, without making a single calculation. Full directions for taking measurements are given, for the largest lady and the smallest child. The draft is made directly on the cloth. With this system and the book on dressmaking which goes with it, any lady of ordinary intelligence can take a fashion-plate from any fashion magazine, and cut a dress or any other garment in the same style and be certain of a perfect fit without trying on. With book and diagrams you will know how much goods to buy for any style of garment, how to fashion waist, how to fit stout or thin ladies, how to fit round or hollow shoulders, how to remedy or conceal defects in the form; in short, all the valuable secrets connected with dressmaking.

The regular price of Prof. D. W. Moody's New and Perfecting System of Square Measurement for Dressmaking is \$5.00 the world over, and for the new Illustrated Books on Dressmaking, new Dolman and Mantle Cutting, is \$3.50, making a total of \$8.50. By special arrangement with Prof. Moody, we are enabled to offer the complete System, together with this paper one year, for only \$1.50. We guarantee that Premium No. 549 is the same goods in every respect that you would get if you paid Prof. Moody \$8.50 for the System alone, without our paper. Prof. Moody says: "Thousands of ladies are not only making a good living, but are becoming wealthy, simply because they learned my system, and the sales are increasing daily all over the world."

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers. Price of the complete System, including one year's subscription, \$1.50.



Premium No. 549.

Needle-Work. Premium No. 446.



A Manual of Stitches and Studies in Embroidery and Drawn-work, edited by Jennie June. This manual is an attempt to systematize and arrange in an order convenient for workers, the modern methods in Embroidery and Drawn-work. The author has felt the desire and the responsibility involved in aiding women to a true and practical guide to the beautiful art of needle-work. This book is printed on fine paper, has a handsome cover, and contains 200 illustrations of Stitches and Designs.

Bottonhole, Hemstitch, Brier-stitch, Crow's-foot, Herring-bone, Fodder-stitch, Two Tie, Three Tie, Drawn-work, Stem-stitch, Twisted Chain or Rope-stitch, Split-stitch, French Knot, Solid Leaf, Satin-stitch, Padding, Darning-stitch, Skeleton Outline, Conching, Kensington Filling, Coral, Italian, Leviathan and Holbein Stitches, Applique, Interlaced Ground, Weaving-stitch, Gold and Silver Thread, Arrasene Ribbon Work, etc. Designs in Needle-work are given to decorate My Lady's Chamber, My Lady's Robe, the Dining-room, Parlor and Library, and for Linen and Cotton Fabrics, including Embroidery Designs for Mantel Scarfs, Bedspreads, Child's Quilt, Pillow Covers, Cushion Boxes, Bureau Scarfs, Table Covers, Chair Backs, Book Covers, etc.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 80 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 256.

A Complete Printing Office

For only \$1.25.

"IT IS A DAISY!"



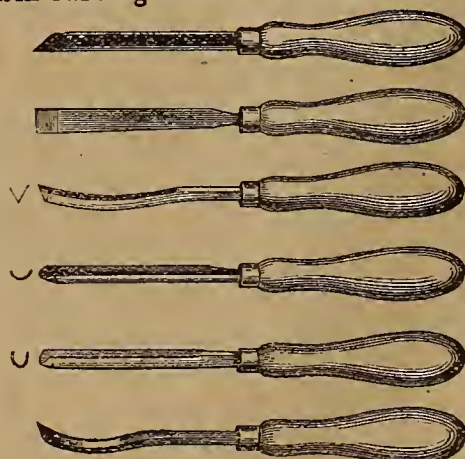
This outfit surpasses anything of the kind ever offered for the small sum of money. While more complete than our last year's outfit, by using a very large number, we can offer it at a reduced price.

A full outfit, consisting of 1 can of best black ink, 1 box of rich gold bronze, 1 box of bright silver bronze, 1 pack of assorted cards, 1 composition ink-roller, 1 pair of steel tweezers, 1 font of card type, in partitioned case, with quads, spaces and complete set of furniture, with full directions how to set up a printing office. There is no amusement so well adapted to boys as that which will be profitable and educate their young ideas in forms of business. Many boys who began a few years ago with a small hand-press are now proprietors of large printing establishments.

Given as a premium for 5 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.50.

We offer it for sale for \$1.25, when sent by express, receiver to pay charges on about 4 pounds. If you want it to come by mail, you must enclose 60 cents extra for postage. Name your express office if different from your post-office.

Six Carving Tools in a Walnut Case. Premium No. 17.



WOOD CARVING has an extraordinary fascination for persons who possess any mechanical bent, or love for the beautiful. Wonderful progress has been made, and skilled wood carvers who earn good wages are now numbered by the hundred. There are six tools in the set. Each tool is about six inches long, made of the best steel, highly polished and sharpened ready for use. The handles are polished rosewood. A Book of Instructions accompanies each set.

Carving in wood is an elegant and useful art. It would astonish most people to be shown what may be done with these simple tools. Not only may elegant trifles, such as brackets, hook-rests, bread-plates, paper-knives, picture frames, etc., be made by the home carver, but chairs, tables, sideboards, bedsteads and other domestic articles may be ornamented in this way.

It is an established fact that women may excel in doing carved work. In almost every neighborhood may be seen the handiwork of ladies who have studied and become expert in the art. The set is sent in a neat and strong walnut case, on receipt of only \$1.15.

Given as a premium for five yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

We offer it for sale for \$1.15. Postage paid by us in each case.

BOOKS ON FANCY WORK.

We offer a number of books on the prevailing fashions of fancy work, and are prepared to fill orders for Chenille Embroidery Silk, Fancy Braids and Tinsel Braids, Paints for Kensington Work, etc., at the very lowest prices. We propose to make this department of fancy work of the utmost value to our lady readers, and will do our best to please. The following are:

BOOKS AT 25 CENTS EACH, POSTPAID:

"Kensington Embroidery and Colors of Flowers," "Book of Cross-Stitch Designs," "Book About Drawn-work," "Brush Studies," by Lida Clarkson.

BOOKS AT 15 CENTS EACH, POSTPAID:

"Crazy Patchwork," "Crochet Books"—5 numbers at 15 cents each.

Any one of the 25-cent books given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Any two of the 15-cent books given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

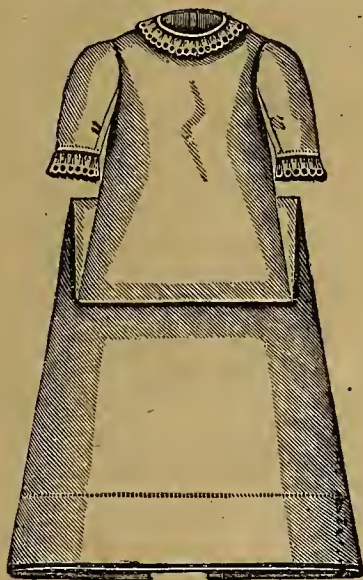
Send us a few subscribers, and get some of the valuable premiums offered. Subscribers for this paper are easily secured.

FINE MUSLIN UNDERWEAR

Always on the hunt for desirable goods to offer as premiums, we take pleasure in announcing that we have perfected arrangements with one of the largest manufacturers of Fine Muslin Underwear in the United States, and now present, for the first time, a fine line of these goods. Every garment is well made and perfect fitting, and represents the best money value attainable. We have carefully compared them with the catalogue goods of the leading retail stores of the large cities, and find them equal, if not superior, in quality, while our prices are fully ten to twenty-five per cent below; besides, we pay the postage, while the storekeeper requires extra for postage on each article.

Infants' Long Slips.

Premium No. 280.



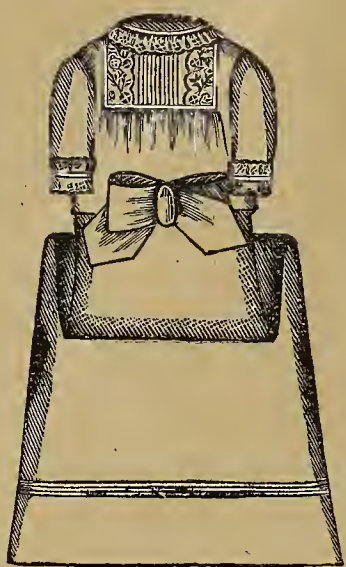
This is a plain slip. Is made of cambric and trimmed with a neat edge. A very good article for the money.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 80 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 281.



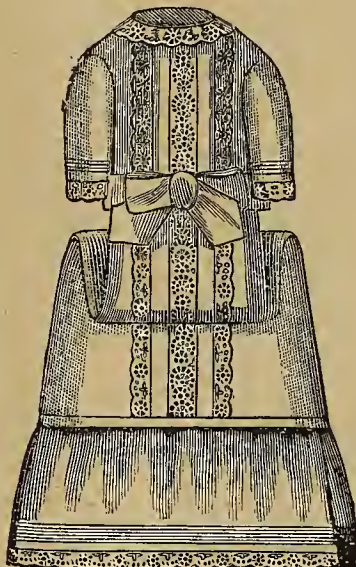
This pretty slip is made of fine cambric, with yoke of edging and tucks, deep-tucked boms, sash, etc. Is a splendid bargain and certain to give satisfaction.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

We offer it for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 282.



This is a lovely slip, as pretty as it can be, but with little "tootsey" inside of it, it will be "too sweet for anything." Front of insertions and edges between plaits, with a deep-tucked and embroidered ruffle.

Given as a premium for 7 yearly subscribers.

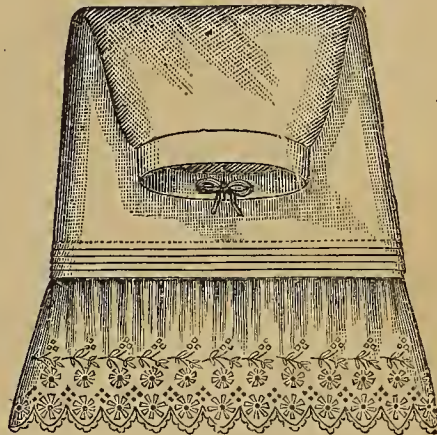
Price, including one year's subscription, \$2.10.

We offer it for sale for \$2. Postage paid by us in each case.

Skirts.

Sizes, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches from band to bottom. In ordering, give length wanted.

Premium No. 275.



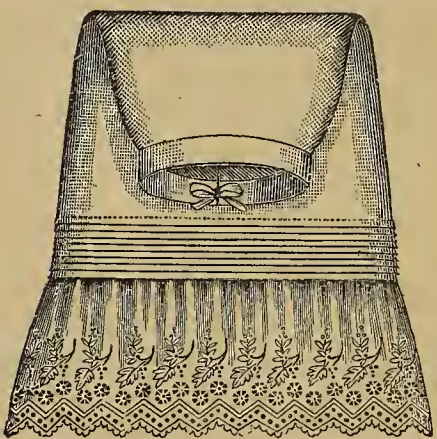
This skirt is made of good muslin, and trimmed with tucks and Hamburg ruffles.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

We offer it for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 276.



This beautiful skirt has eight quarter-inch tucks and a lovely Hamburg ruffle.

Given as a premium for 6 yearly subscribers.

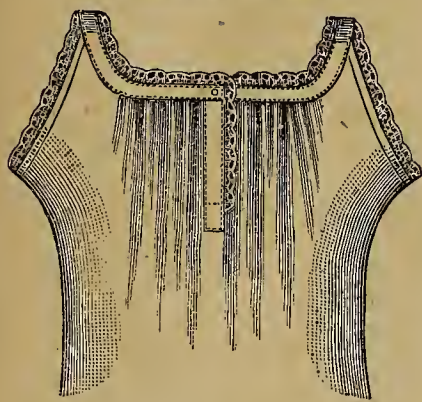
Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.75.

We offer it for sale for \$1.50. Postage paid by us in each case.

Chemise.

Length, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches. In ordering, give size wanted.

Premium No. 286.



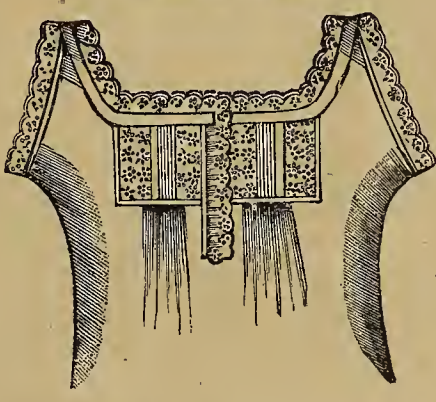
This chemise is made of good muslin, with band, sleeves and front trimmed with machine Torchon lace.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 80 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 287.



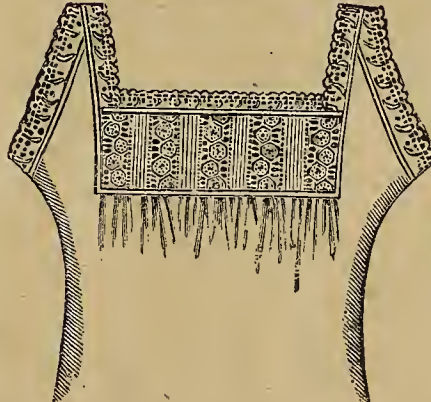
This fine chemise is as pretty as it looks. It is open front, square yoke of four insertions and tucks, band, front and sleeves trimmed with neat edge.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

We offer it for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 288.



This cambric Pompadour chemise is a perfect beauty. It has square yoke of five rows of insertion and eight rows of hemstitching, between clusters of tucks, trimmed with a neat edge.

Given as a premium for 6 yearly subscribers.

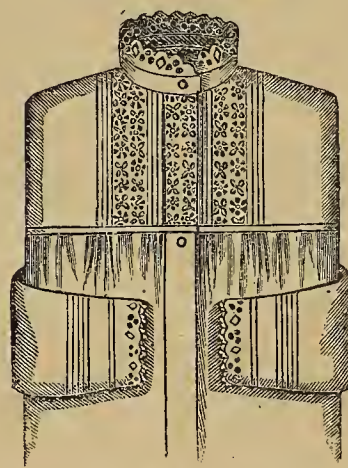
Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.75.

We offer it for sale for \$1.50. Postage paid by us in each case.

Night-Gowns.

Size of neck-band, 13, 14, 15 and 16 inches. In ordering, give size wanted.

Premium No. 290.



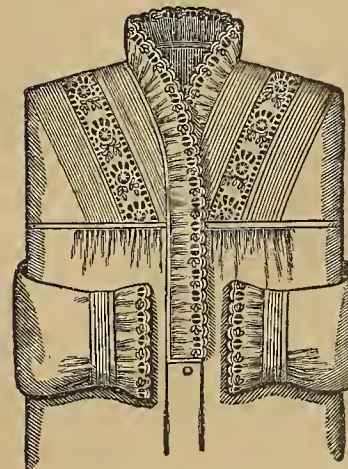
This pretty night-dress has a yoke of three insertions between tucks, with neck and sleeves trimmed with neat edge.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

We offer it for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 291.



This lovely Mother-Hubbard night-gown is made of fine cambric, plaited back, V-shape yoke of insertions and tucks. Neck, front and sleeves trimmed with a neat edge, as shown in cut.

Given as a premium for 6 yearly subscribers.

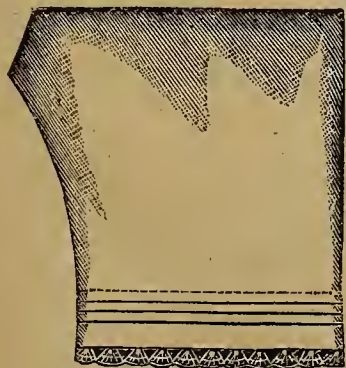
Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.75.

We offer it for sale for \$1.50. Postage paid by us in each case.

Drawers.

All Yoke Band, lengths, 23, 25, 27 and 29 inches. In ordering, give size wanted.

Premium No. 265.



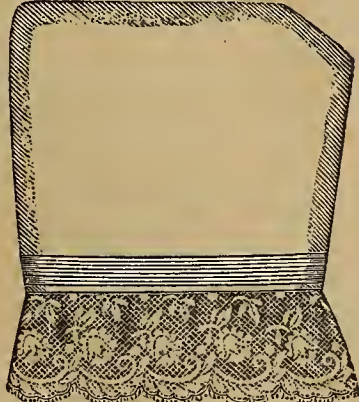
These drawers are tucked and trimmed with machine Torchon lace.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 80 cents.

We offer them for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 266.



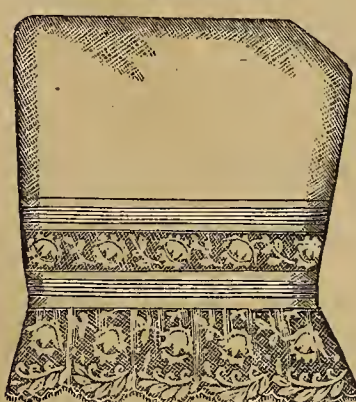
These beautiful cambric drawers have a cluster of light tucks from which depends a deep Valenciennes ruffle.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

We offer them for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 267.



These lovely cambric drawers have Valenciennes insertion between tucks, and deep ruffles of Valenciennes lace.

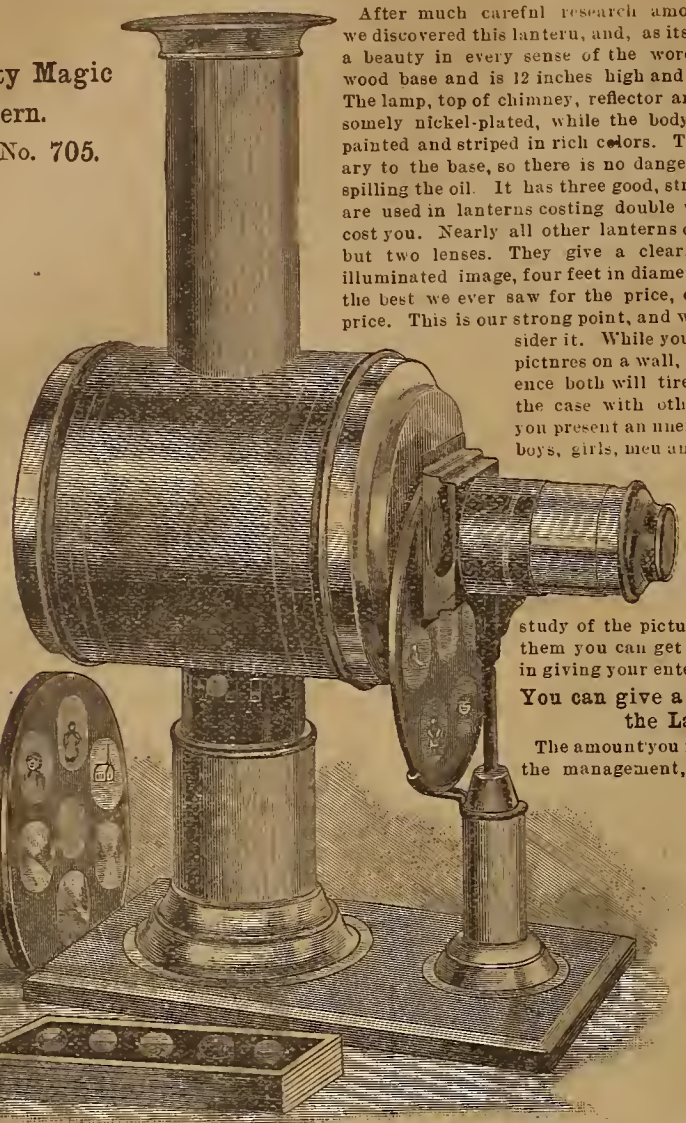
Given as a premium for 6 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.75.

We offer them for sale for \$1.50. Postage paid by us in each case.

A copy of this Premium List will be sent free to any person who asks for it, and will save money to all who use it.

The Beauty Magic Lantern. Premium No. 705.



After much careful research among manufacturers we discovered this lantern, and, as its name implies, it is a beauty in every sense of the word. It stands on a wood base and is 12 inches high and 8 inches in width. The lamp, top of chimney, reflector and lenses are hand-somely nickel-plated, while the body of the lantern is painted and striped in rich colors. The lamp is stationary to the base, so there is no danger of upsetting and spilling the oil. It has three good, strong lenses, such as are used in lanterns costing double what this one will cost you. Nearly all other lanterns of this grade have but two lenses. They give a clear, sharp and well-illuminated image, four feet in diameter. The slides are the best we ever saw for the price, or even double the price. This is our strong point, and we urge you to consider it. While you can throw colored pictures on a wall, you and your audience both will tire of them, if, as is the case with other cheap lanterns, you present an unending procession of boys, girls, men and women, with an occasional dog thrown in. In the Beauty the pictures shown mean something and amount to something. By a little study of the pictures before showing them you can get up a lecture to use in giving your entertainments.

You can give a good Show with the Lantern.

The amount you make depends all on the management, but all the way from \$1.00 to \$25.00 can be made on a good magic lantern exhibition. Besides this, you will have lots of fun; there is nothing so exciting as to get up a "show" and sell tickets, and get all the boys excited about it. Give an exhibition at home, and

you will find that you can entertain all your home folks, with the neighbors and their children, in a way that will be charming to them and at the same time bring nickels and dimes plentifully to your willing pockets.

THE OUTFIT IS VERY COMPLETE,

Consisting of the lantern, lenses and reflectors, 6 slides, (5 beautiful views on each slide); also, 3 revolving discs bound in metal, with 6 views on each, making in all 48 pictures—show bills and 50 tickets for your exhibition. Orders filled promptly, as a very large number of them were imported expressly for us. The price named is extremely low for the lantern, considering the fine qualities of which we have spoken.

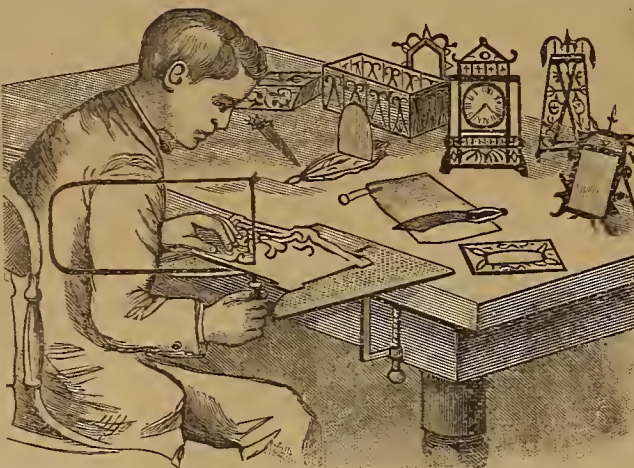
Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$2. We offer it for sale for \$1.75. All express or mail charges are prepaid at these prices. Name express office if different from your post-office address.

Nickel-Plated Bracket Saw. Premium No. 15.

What chances boys have nowadays! And the wide-awake boy takes advantage of the opportunity. With a few cents worth of wood he makes articles worth \$2.00 to \$5.00, and finds it fun in the work of making them. This bracket saw is very neat and handsome in appearance. The frame is nickel-plated, polished, and the handle is polished hard wood. The whole outfit is put up in a neat box, and consists of 1 Nickel-plated Bracket Saw, 5x12 inches; 12 Extra Saw Blades; 1 Manual of Sawing and Wood Carving; 50 Miniature Designs; Designs for \$25 worth of Brackets, etc., etc., full size; 1 Drill Point.

The "Manual of Instructions"—illustrated—gives description of all tools and woods used in bracket sawing, five illustrated lessons for beginning, instructions how to apply the design, smooth the work and put it together, with valuable instructions about the kind of designs for beginners. Attention is also given to Marquetry or Inlaying Work.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.40. We offer it for sale for \$1.15. Postage paid by us in each case.



Best Steel Bracket-Saw Blades.

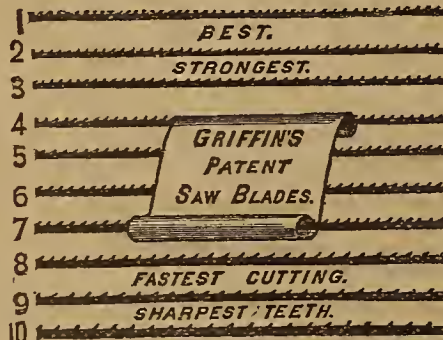
Premium No. 16.

These Bracket-Saw Blades are of superior quality. They will outwear two of the best French or German blades, and are far more desirable in cutting quality. Order by numbers, not less than one dozen of a kind.

Five dozen of any number given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price of five dozen, including one year's subscription, 85 cents.

We offer one dozen for sale for 15 cents, or 5 dozen for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



Tea or Coffee Set. Premium No. 83.

This is a beautiful china set, richly decorated with artistic floral designs in colors; it will please any parent to see how delighted their child will be to get one of these lovely china sets. Large enough for six little boys and girls to have a stylish party, and each one have a separate plate, cup and saucer. Many happy hours of amusement are provided by this inexpensive set. This is an elegant set, made of genuine, fine, white china.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

We offer it for sale for 45 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



Britannia Tea Set. Premium No. 545.

The set of children's dishes we offer is composed of 24 pieces, and is made of fine Britannia metal, bright and handsome, also very durable and hard to break. They will delight the heart of every little girl who will secure a set. Each piece is nicely ornamented, as shown in the cut, and the entire set is put up in a box.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 80 cents. We offer it for sale for 40 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Authors Improved. Premium No. 536.

An old and favorite game, greatly improved and enlarged; 60 fine cards, each containing the name of an author and three of his works. Will afford excellent instruction and entertainment for winter evenings.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents. We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



PRETTY DOLLS.

Nothing gives more pleasure to the little girls than their dolls. From the elegantly dressed, through all the gradations of various materials, down to the home-made rag-baby, childhood loves them all, and each and everyone finds a warm welcome in some expectant household. We can surely please all tastes and pocket-books in our assortment, all of which have been selected from a very large number, with the endeavor to offer only those made strongest and best, and able to stand the "hard knocks" so many of them are sure to receive.

Large Bisque Doll. Premium No. 474.

Stands 19 inches high. A genuine bisque, with part kid body, jointed. Has beautiful hair and bright eyes that open and shut. The pretty lips are slightly parted, showing beautiful white teeth. It is dressed in a white gown, with a pretty bib; wears a handsome cap, with lace fringe; and has pretty shoes and knit stockings.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.25.

We offer it for sale for \$1. This large doll will be sent by express, the receiver to pay charges on a little more than two pounds. Or parties at a long distance from Springfield, Ohio, will save charges by sending us 35 cents extra for postage, and receive it by mail. Name your express office if different from your post-office address.

French Bisque Doll. Premium No. 322.

14 inches high. A fine bisque doll, with all kid body, jointed. Lovely hair, and eyes that open and shut. A pretty smile on the face gives a glimpse of its pearly white teeth. The doll can be as easily and readily cleaned as a kid glove, and is made from such durable material that it will last for many years, making it the cheapest doll to purchase.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.

We offer it for sale for 80 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Bisque Doll, French Jointed Body. Prem. No. 571.

13 inches high. This is one of the "cutest" and most durable dolls made. Has bisque head, and the joints are so made that the doll may be placed in almost any position. The arms may be outstretched, or upraised, or held down; the feet may be placed as if walking or running; and the head may be turned in any position. It is a very pretty little doll, with long tresses, bright eyes and white teeth. Is dressed in a white gown with fancy edging. Will stand more rough treatment than any other doll.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 85 cents.

We offer it for sale for 60 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 66 Is the old reliable doll with indestructible head, whose face can be washed as much as you like. She is about 15 inches high, with extra strong body, stuffed with hair (no sawdust), patent leather shoes and gay-colored stockings. She awaits your dressmaking talents.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 80 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



Favorite Steam Engine Premium No. 701.

It is a model Steam-Engine, complete and perfect, and all its parts are firmly connected, so that it can be readily moved from one place to another while in operation. The essential parts are as perfect and made as carefully as larger and more expensive engines, and it is suitable for beginners in the study of steam. The Favorite has sufficient power to run small toys. It is richly finished in red and gold colors, and is thoroughly tested and fully warranted. It will run with great speed for nearly an hour with one filling of the boiler. With proper care it will wear for years. It is perfectly safe for any child to handle, explosion being impossible. Carefully packed in a wooden locked-corner box. Full directions for running the engine will be found in each box.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1. We offer it for sale for 75 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Rubber Toy. Premium No. 207.



This is a fine rubber bird with a baby on its back, made all in one piece. It is about 5 inches high and 6 inches long. The baby has rosy cheeks and blue eyes. By slightly pressing the bird it will whistle. Being made of rubber, it is unbreakable.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents. We offer it for sale for 35 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Paper Dolls and Paper Drawing-Room Sets. Premium No. 94.



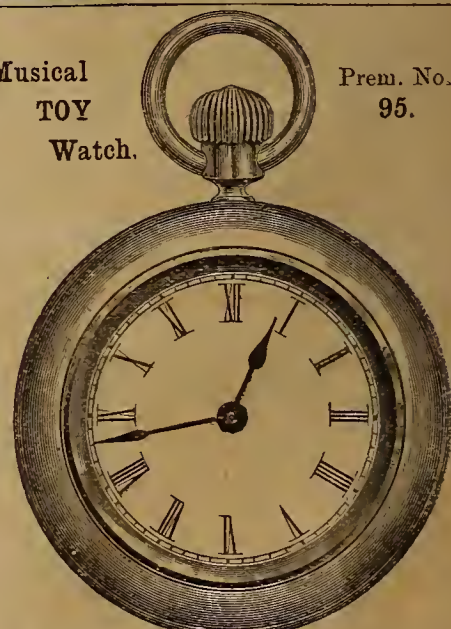
This beautiful Doll set represents a pretty little girl with a lovely wardrobe of four different suits, including hats, change of hair, etc. All in rich colors, producing the most artistic effects. Accompanying each doll outfit is a pretty paper furniture drawing-room set, consisting of piano, sofa, chairs, rocker, table, etc. These are all in the natural colors of the most artistic modern furniture, and offered in connection with the pretty doll set, form a combination which will afford real enjoyment to the little ones.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer them for sale for 20 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Musical TOY Watch.

Prem. No.
95.



This musical toy watch will interest most little boys and girls. It is the size of a genuine watch, with face and hands. When wound up at the stem, the hands commence to move around, pointing at the hours and minutes just like a real watch, and music is produced by the inside mechanism. Each watch plays only one tune. As an aid to teaching children the time of day it is of great value. Attached to each watch is a pretty steel chain.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents. We offer it for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Save this paper, use it the year round and it will save you many dollars. A valuable friend to have in the house.

**Magnetic Jack Straws.**

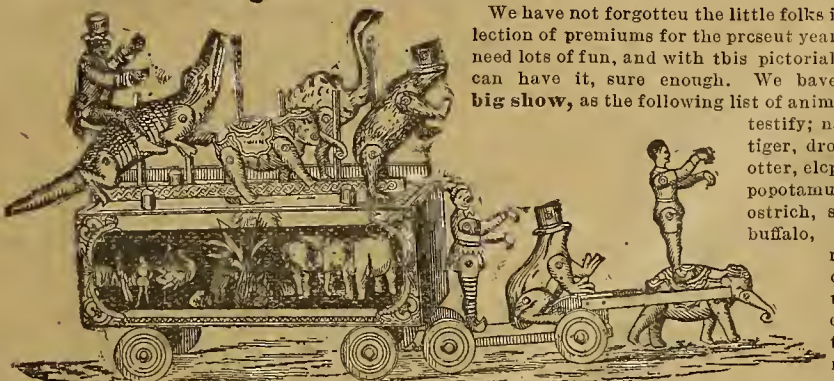
Premium No. 86.

One of the latest of parlor games, and a great improvement on the old game. The straws are metal, of various colors, accompanying which are two horseshoe magnets, with which the straws are picked up one at a time. The magnets retain their strength indefinitely by means of small pieces of steel. The game is intensely interesting, as our illustration indicates. Full directions accompany each game.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

We offer it for sale for 30 cts. Postage paid by us in each case.

Little Folks' Menagerie. Premium No. 92.

We have not forgotten the little folks in making our selection of premiums for the present year. The little tots need lots of fun, and with this pictorial menagerie they can have it, sure enough. We have got together a big show, as the following list of animals and birds will testify; namely, wild boar, tiger, dromedary, gorilla, otter, elephant, zebra, hippopotamus, giraffe, toad, ostrich, swan, eagle, Cape buffalo, drake, squirrel, rabbit and lots of others, all in natural colors. Full directions for cutting out the animals so they will stand up, just as if they were really alive, accompany each menagerie. A good way to give the little ones their first lessons in natural history.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer it for sale for 15 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

The A B C Panorama. Premium No. 614.

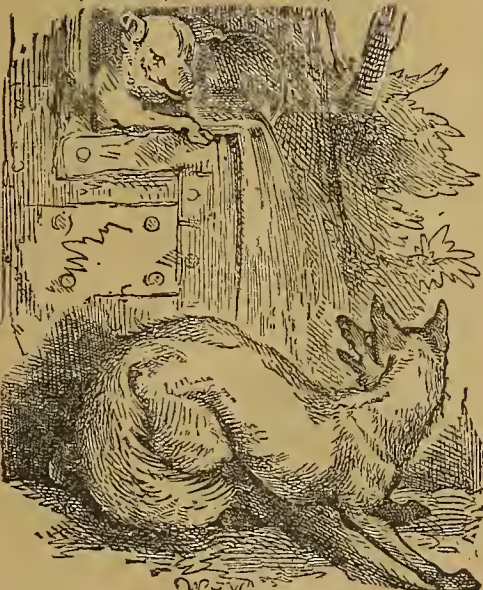
The alphabetical toy panorama is an amusing novelty and one of the most valuable toys ever placed upon the market. As the engraving shows, it is a barrel three inches long, properly proportioned, made of well-seasoned wood, elegantly colored and polished, and will not break if



dropped upon the floor or pavement. The 26 illustrations are printed upon a strip of durable cloth, 2 inches wide and 53 inches in length. By simply turning the crank (to which the cloth is attached), the letters, with their beautiful illustrations and object lessons, appear and disappear in and out of the barrel, every two letters making a simple rhyme. It will amuse the little ones for hours. Building blocks, linen books and similar toys cannot compare with this attractive and novel article.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

FAIRY STORIES.**Dame Trot Series.** Premium No. 99.

The Dame Trot Series of Fairy Stories consists of the following books:

- Five Little Pigs.
- Old Mother Goose and Her Son Jack.
- Sing a Song of Sixpence.
- Little Bo-Peep.
- Dame Trot and Her Cat.
- The Little Old Woman who Lived in a Shoe.

May Belle Series. Premium No. 546.

The May Belle Series consists of the following books:

- Jack and the Beanstalk.
- Three Little Pigs.
- The Babes in the Woods.
- The Three Bears.
- Diamonds and Toads.
- My First Alphabet.

Each book has four full-page illustrations on the inside, also one each on front and back of cover, handsomely printed in colors. Fairy Stories always please the children, besides, these being illustrated with pictures, makes them all the more desirable. Size of books, 7 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches.

Either set of six books given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price of either set of six books, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer either set of six books for sale for 15 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Premium No. 107.

Both sets, all 12 books, given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price of both sets, 12 books, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer both sets, 12 books, for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Mother Goose's Rhymes. Prem. No. 97.

This book is full of Mother Goose's melodies, which "oft and ever" amuse the little ones. It is profusely illustrated with comical pictures, which of themselves are very funny, independent of the rhymes. Children amuse themselves for hours with this book, reading about "The man in the moon," or "Ten little Indians standing in a line," etc.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

**Mother Goose's Chimes.**

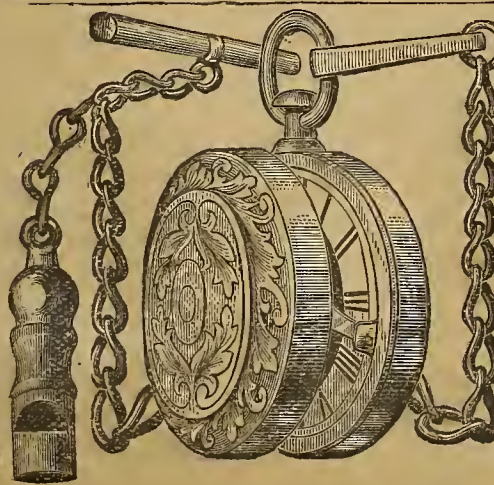
Premium No. 102.

This book is chock-full of childhood songs or rhymes, such as have often delighted the tots of the household. It is as good as a "day nursery" in caring for and amusing the baby while mamma does up the work. It should be found in every home where there are little children.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

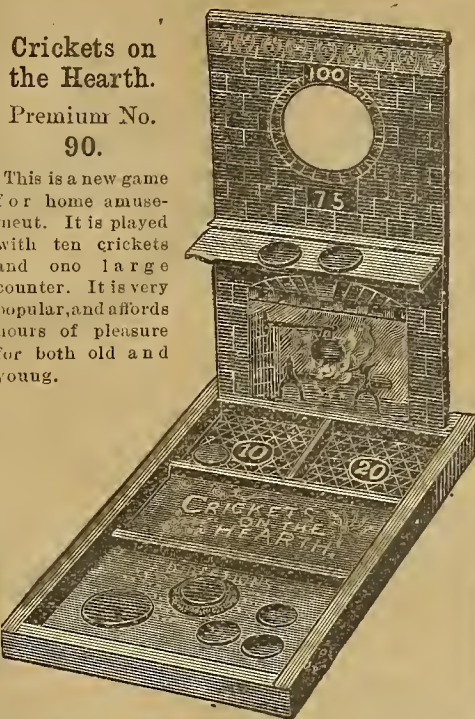
Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

**Cricket on the Hearth.**

Premium No. 90.

This is a new game for home amusement. It is played with ten crickets and one large counter. It is very popular, and affords hours of pleasure for both old and young.



Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer it for sale for 15 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

The Bugle Trumpet.

Prem. No. 346.



All the calls used by buglers can be made on this instrument, and also many chords, by the combination of different ones of the five keys. The mouth-piece is of white porcelain, and the horn itself is of brightly polished brass. The tones are not loud and shrill, but soft and melodious.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Tiddledy Winks.

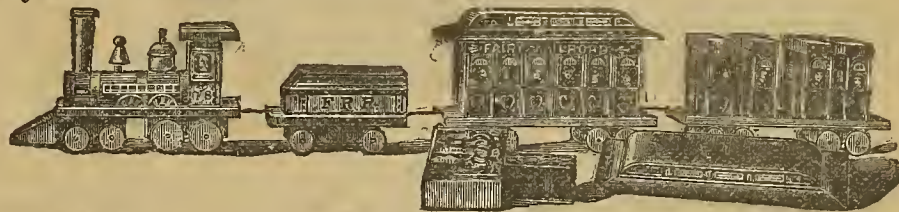
Premium No. 87.

An entirely new and very interesting game. It is productive of much amusement, and can be played by any number of people. There is no more innocent and pleasurable amusement for a winter evening. It interests old and young alike. Full directions and pretty Japanese basket with each game.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

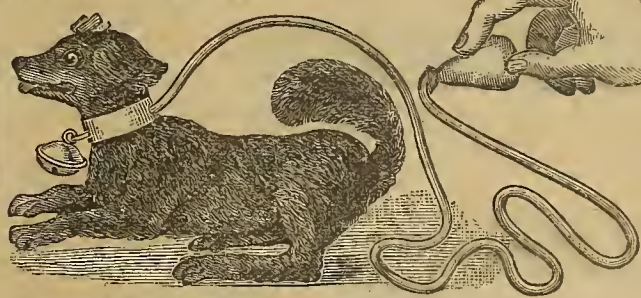
We offer it for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

**Fairy Railroad Train.** Premium No. 212.

The cheapest good toy railroad train on the market. The train is twenty inches long, and consists of Engine, Tender and one Passenger-coach. The coach is built in a new and novel manner, being constructed from blocks, which can be removed to make a 'gravel-train'. The whole train is lithographed in bright, attractive colors, and is packed in a box.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 85 cents.

We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

The "Jumping Dog." Prem. No. 213.

The latest novelty! Pleases old and young! The youngest child can operate it! This new and very ingenious toy will surely become a great favorite. The dog is substantially made. A rubber tube is attached to the collar. A rubber ball at the other end of the tube contains the propelling power—air. Place the dog in position as shown in the cut, grasp the ball also as shown, and compress the ball. The air is then forced through the tube and into a bellows (a neat mechanical device contained within the

body of the dog), and at each pressure of the ball the dog will jump about in a very comical manner.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 35 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Little Wonder Timekeeper. Prem. 227.

A sun-dial and compass combined, with nickel chain and charm. This useful article has been sold all over the land in immense quantities, and called the "Solar Watch," "Perfect Timekeeper," etc., and thousands supposed they were going to get a real, genuine watch, but we make no such claim. This is not a watch but resembles one very closely, and is an accurate compass, so that it will always point to the north. By laying this little instrument down so the sun will shine on it, a shadow is formed which will indicate the time of day on the dial. The nickel chain and charm are quite an addition, so that a boy or girl with one of these would have a very good imitation of a genuine watch and chain.

The Timekeeper, Chain and Charm all given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 30 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

The Metalaphone. Premium No. 88.

Every boy and girl will be interested in this Metalaphone. It discourses sweet music, very similar to the piano. It requires but little practice to become an adept. Any tune can be played on it. It cannot get out of order, and will last a lifetime. The keys are nickel-plated, and it is certainly a pretty and common-sense present that will be appreciated by a good boy or girl.

Given as a premium for 2 new yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 80 cents.

We offer it for sale for 40 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Ladies' 8-inch Nickel-Plated Shears. Premium No. 147.

These shears are made of the best steel, expressly for select trade, but we have obtained a large number for our subscribers. They are a new model, straight trimmers, beveled blades, heavily nickel-plated, of convenient size for general use, being 8 inches long. We warrant them durable, and to have good temper, so that they will keep sharp for a long time.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 90 cents.

We offer them for sale for 60 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Length, 8 inches, much larger than cut shows.

Ladies' Scissors. Premium No. 217.

These scissors are the most popular size, being 5½ inches in length, and made of fine, English cast-steel, full nickel-plated, beveled blades. They are sure to please, and should be in every lady's work-basket. They are offered at a very low price.

Length, 5½ inches.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 75 cents.

We offer them for sale for 40 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

New Buttonhole Scissors. Premium No. 169.

Every lady knows the value of a good pair of buttonhole scissors. We warrant these scissors to be made of the finest steel, crocus finish and full nickel-plated. By an American arrangement the screw for adjusting scissors to cut buttonholes of any desired length does not take up any room, besides, it has an extra nut on opposite side that

Cut is full size.

tightens it so it cannot slip, as is the case with the straight screw. The blades are fastened with a patent tension spring, that always insures smooth cutting. We are confident you will be pleased with these scissors.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.

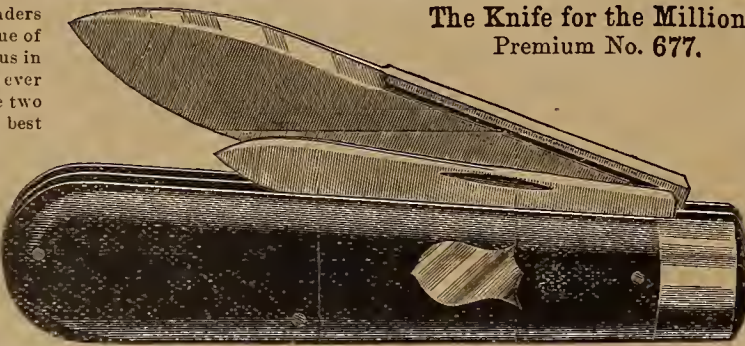
Price, including one year's subscription \$1.

We offer them for sale for 70 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

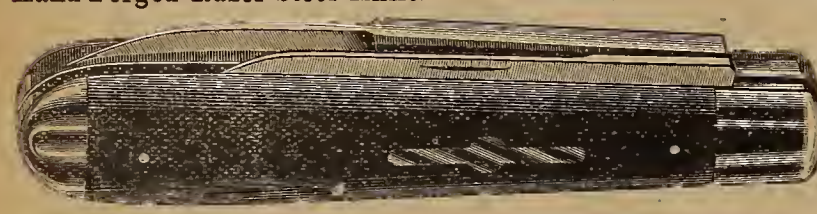
Thousands of our readers who have each received one of these knives agree with us in saying it is the best knife ever offered for the price. The two blades are made of the best grade of crucible tool steel, being up to the highest standard in quality and finish. The knife has a rubberoid handle, which is much superior to either bone or wood. It is very neat in appearance, and is the product of superior American workmanship. It is constructed on scientific principles, and each knife warranted by the manufacturers as absolutely perfect. Only by buying in very large quantities are we able to offer them at this price. If not satisfactory, return the knife and we will return the money.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 40 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

The Knife for the Million. Premium No. 677.**The Old Reliable.**

Certain to meet requirements of those who want a better knife than No. 677. Warranted made of the very best steel, with hand-forged blades. Extra

Hand-Forged Razor-Steel Knife. Premium No. 7.

thick and strong, large blade, elegantly finished handle, rounded bolsters (finished in German silver), and brass lined. Warranted; if either blade is imperfect, soft, or breaks from any defect, you can return the knife to us and get another by next mail. The knife alone would be cheap at one dollar.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 90 cents.

We offer it for sale for 75 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

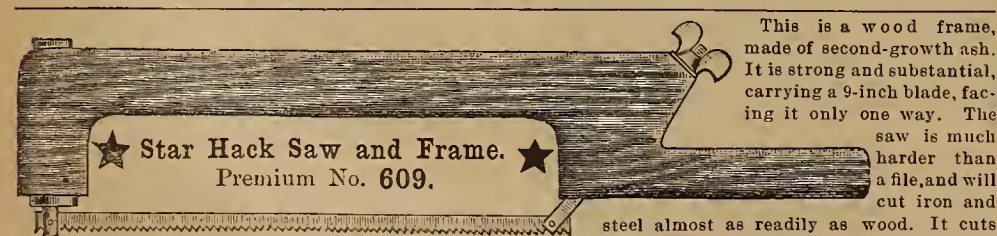
Hollow Ground Razor. Premium No. 311.

This is a first-class razor in every respect. It has a ¾-inch blade, round, and does not need to be honed before using, as it comes to you ready for work. It has a clean, smooth-cutting edge, is easily kept sharp and in first-class condition. Each razor is fully warranted, and you cannot help being pleased with it. It is offered at a very low price, fully 75 cents to \$1.25 less than the

usual cost in stores, because we get the razor from the manufacturers and give our readers the benefit.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$1.15.

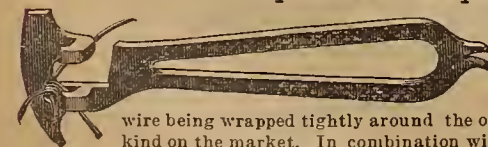
We offer it for sale for \$1. Postage paid by us in each case.

**★ Star Hack Saw and Frame. ★ Premium No. 609.**

thing, it will do most of the sawing required about a house, shop or farm. One saw blade is sent with each frame, and extra saw blades are supplied at 10 cents each, or 3 for 25 cents.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 35 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Wire-Splicer and Staple-Puller. Premium No. 489.

No Man who has Wire Fences can afford to be without it.

With the Wire-splicer two pieces of wire can be spliced as neatly and strongly as it is done at the factory, one wire being wrapped tightly around the other, as shown in the cut. This is the only tool of the kind on the market. In combination with the Wire-splicer is a Staple-puller. Everyone knows how hard it is to get the staples out of a fence post. With this little tool and a hammer they can be taken out as fast as the puller can be placed in position. The same tool also has a claw for drawing light nails or tacks, a hammer head for driving tacks, and the handle is in shape to use for a light wrench; the hook is very useful for handling barbed wire and protecting the hands from injury. Thus, there is combined in this one tool half a dozen that would cost separately one or two dollars. Directions for use go with each tool.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

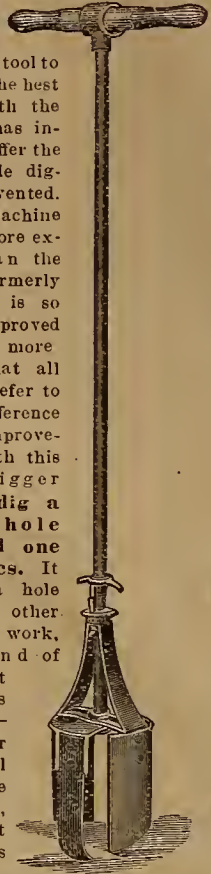
Improved Post-Hole Digger. Premium No. 462.

The ever-increasing demand for a tool to set posts in the best way and with the least labor, has induced us to offer the best post-hole digger ever invented. While this machine is a little more expensive than the one we formerly offered, it is so greatly improved and so much more valuable, that all who see it prefer to pay the difference for the improvements. With this ingenious digger you can dig a three-foot hole in one and one half minutes. It will bore a hole where no other auger will work, in any kind of ground, wet or dry. It is the only post-hole digger that will empty the dirt itself, even the most tenacious muck or clay, by simply touching a spring. The spades are made of steel, making a very strong and durable machine.

Given as a premium for 10 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, \$3.60.

Must be sent by express or freight, charges—which will be light—to be paid by the receiver.

**Crispin's Awl. Premium No. 145.**

Has a hardwood, hollow handle; inside it has a spool with 50 feet best waxed linen shoe-thread, three awls and three needles of various shapes and sizes. The thread fits the needles, and the awls fit the handle, and are held by a set-screw, as shown in cut. The top screws on, as with tool-holders. It weighs only three ounces, and can be carried in the pocket easily. It will save its cost to you many times over inside the year, enabling you to repair broken harness without loss of time. For use in the stable or field and on the road it is the handiest tool to be found.

Given as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents.

We offer it for sale for 35 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

**The Perfection Horse-Tail Tie. Prem. No. 240.**

This is a unique and simple device for holding up the hair of the horse's tail and protecting it from the mud. It is made from especially prepared spring brass, highly polished. Unlike any other tie or holder, it does not stop the circulation, deaden or cut the hair, stretch or shrink after being wet.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65c.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

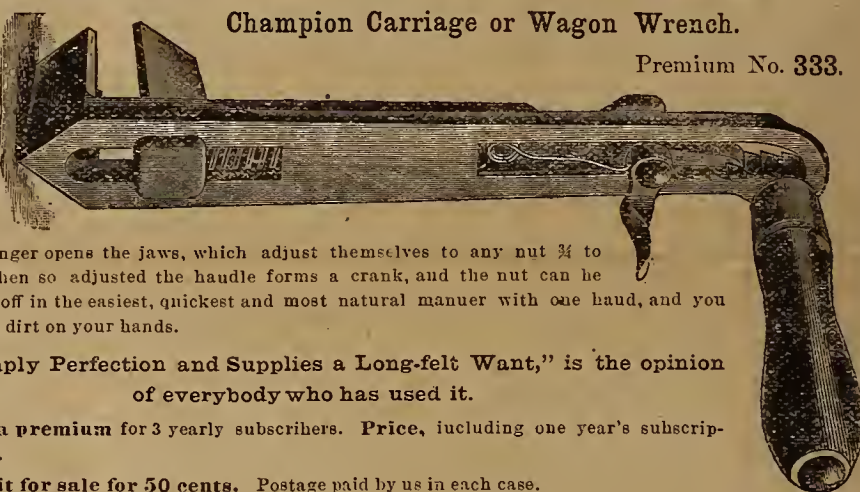
**Champion Carriage or Wagon Wrench. Premium No. 333.**

This wrench is practically new. Is made of malleable iron. No screws or thumb-nuts about it. A simple pressure of the finger opens the jaws, which adjust themselves to any nut ¼ to 1½ inch. When so adjusted the handle forms a crank, and the nut can be turned on or off in the easiest, quickest and most natural manner with one hand, and you don't get any dirt on your hands.

"It is Simply Perfection and Supplies a Long-felt Want," is the opinion of everybody who has used it.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 85 cents.

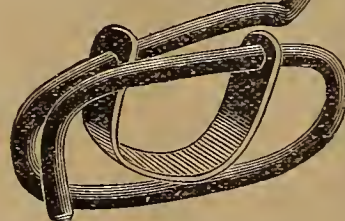
We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

**Cyclone Corn-Sheller. Premium No. 611.**

The Cyclone Sheller is the most perfect and effective sheller ever placed on the market. The manufacturers have succeeded in overcoming the frequent clogging and choking which is the constant objection to all other machines. Every part is strong enough to stand all strains likely to be required of it, and with proper usage it is warranted for five years. This improved machine is one of our most useful premiums, especially to our farmer friends. It is a little marvel in the simplicity of its construction. While in operation it is, as its name implies, a perfect cyclone in the rapidity with which it strips a "spike of maize" of its corn, dropping the corn into the box or basket, and throwing the "spike," or cob, off at the back. The sheller is small, but it "gets there" ahead of many a larger machine. Its shelling capacity is one bushel of ears inside of four minutes. By a new contrivance, the corn is all dropped into the box or basket arranged for it, the grains not being scattered about the machine, as with other shellers. We are enabled to offer the sheller, together with a year's subscription to this journal, far below the regular price for the machine alone. Must be sent by express, receiver to pay charges, which will be light. Name your

express office, if different from your post-office.

Given as a premium for 10 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$2.50.

American Corn-Husker. Premium No. 124.

This is the invention of an expert corn-husker, and is a simple, convenient, effective and superior article, to which we take great pleasure in calling the attention of farmers everywhere. It is the most successful invention for making corn-husking short, pleasant and easy. Is made of good steel, and possesses all the good and none of the objectionable qualities of the old-style pegs. Especial advantage and convenience are gained by its adaptation to the hand. You can keep your hands warm while using this husker, as mittens may be worn without interfering with the work. The strap shown in cut does not go with the husker, but is easily put on by any one.

Two given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price of one, including one year's subscription, 60 cents; or two, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer one for sale for 15 cents, or two for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

The Friend-in-need Combination Tool. Premium No. 63.

A pair of pliers, gas-nippers, cork-screw, glass-cutter, screw-driver, can-opener and nut-cracker all in one. This is positively the best combination tool ever offered, and at a remarkably low price. It is strong, well made, and handsome in appearance. Is about one third larger than the cut.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65c.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

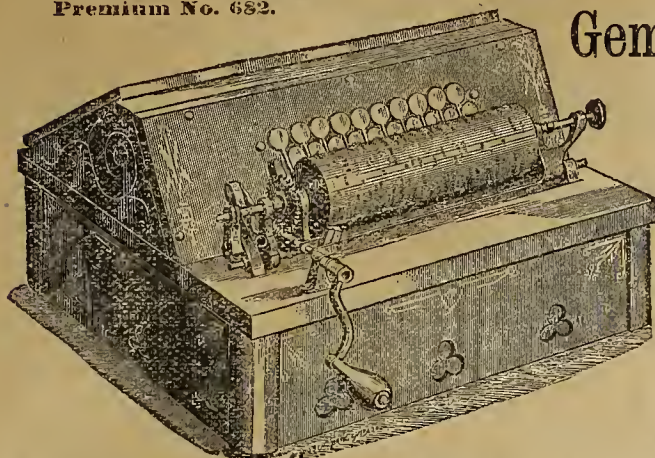


Select your holiday goods from this paper, and Order Early. Do not lose this paper.

A \$10.00 Instrument for Only \$6,

Including One Year's Subscription to this Paper.

Premium No. 682.



Gem Roller Organ

The "Gem" is a perfect musical instrument, powerful in tone, perfect in execution, as well as the simplest and most substantial instrument of the kind ever made. This musical marvel employs no paper, but its music is obtained from a Roller furnished with pins similar to those of a music-box. These pins operate upon valve keys, made of hard steel, the roller being driven by suitable gearing, which also works the bellows. All the working parts of the instrument are easily accessible, and are made of solid metal, the rollers and keys being mounted on iron casting, and

the whole as durable and well made as the best sewing-machine. Nothing has been omitted to give this grand instrument its crowning qualities of extreme Simplicity and Durability. The reeds are of organ size, and their volume of tone and full sustaining and carrying power equal that of a full organ. The case is handsomely made of imitation black walnut decorated with gilt. At a very small cost, parties having these instruments may supply themselves with Songs, Jigs, Reels, Galops, Hornpipes, Waltzes, Hymns, Operatic Selections, etc., and be prepared to play them at any time without practice. The rolls are made to move spirally before the keys, returning automatically at the end of the tune to the place of beginning, and repeating the music as long as desired. This makes it very desirable for the performance of dance music. You cannot help being pleased with this instrument.

THREE MUSIC ROLLERS OF OUR OWN SELECTION GO WITH EACH ORGAN.

Extra Music Rollers, with any of the following tunes, will be sent by mail, postpaid, for 30 cents each. Or, for 25 cents each where several tunes are selected, to be sent by express at expense of receiver.

CATALOGUE OF TUNES, INCLUDING NEW MUSIC.

New and popular tunes are constantly being added to the list.

SACRED MUSIC.		POPULAR SONGS, DANCES, &c.	
78 Poulah Land	22 Almost Persuaded	258 Bonnie Doom	328 Miss McLeod's Reel
79 I'm a Shepherd of the Valley	23 Where is My Boy Tonight	261 Swedish March	329 Rattle Dazzle, Lancers
80 Shall We Meet Beyond the River	24 Bringing in the Sheaves	262 Old Black Joe	330 The Girl I Left Behind Me
81 We Shall Meet Beyond the River	25 I Will Sing of My Redeemer	265 Ward Better Bido a Woo	331 Where Did You Get That Hat
82 I am Praying for You	26 Pull For the Shore	266 Killarney	332 Down Went McGinty
83 More Love to Thee, O Christ	27 Precious Name	268 Convent Thro' the Rye	333 Oriental Bazaar
84 Go Bury Thy Sorrow	28 Pearly Hymns	272 Gwendolyn's Clock	334 Sweetheart Waltz
85 Whoever Will	29 I Hear Thy Welcome Voice	273 The Star Spangled Banner	335 Hill-stream Waltz
86 Softly and Tenderly	30 Watchman Tell Us of the Night	274 Oh! Susanna	336 Kate's Waltz
87 All the Way My Saviour Leads Me	31 Fortunate Hymn	275 Maryland, my Maryland	337 What the Daisy Said
88 Rascals the Portulug	32 Sweet Hour of Prayer	277 Hail Columbia	338 At the Ferry
89 Follow On	33 Jesus, Lover of My Soul	279 Red, White and Blue	339 My Beautiful Native Land
90 Come, Great Deliverer, Come	34 Sweeping through the Gates—Phillips	283 The Old Oaken Bucket	340 My Darling is a Daisy
91 Jesus, My Best Friend (Swedish)	35 Onward Christian Soldiers—Sullivan	286 Little Maggie May	341 Swedish National March
92 Jesus, Well of Mercy		290 In Her Little Bed we Laid Her	342 The Wave
93 My Love to God Alone		293 Conson Jodelch	343 Slide, Katy, Slide
94 Rejoice, O Bride of Christ		297 Patrick's Day	344 Waltz—Blue Violets—Cooles
95 Easter is Coming		299 The Promenade Quickstep	345 The Soldiers' Joy
96 Onward Go		300 Marching Through Georgia	346 Sweet Violets—Emmett
97 We're Marching to Jesus		303 Polka—On the Wing	347 Old Uncle Ned
98 To the Work		305 Listen to the Mocking Bird	348 Climbing Up the Golden Stairs
99 Only a Step to Jesus		306 The Campbells are Coming	349 Old Folks at Home
100 Knocking, Knocking, Who is There		308 I	350 Solons' Hornpipe
101 Thy Servant I Will Be		310 "La Mascotte" Quadrilles	351 Home Sweet Home
102 From Heaven I Am Coming		312 V	352 The Marchioness
103 Be Joyful O My Soul		313 Darling Beside of the Sea	353 Auld Lang Syne
104 It is Now Time		315 The Plantation Galop	354 In the Gloaming
105 Thank Almighty God		316 Off in the Silly Night	355 Annie of the Vale
106 Carried by the Angels		318 The Sailer Boys' Reel	356 Bonnie Eloise
107 Oh! Handful 21 Pines Me Not		319 The Cadets' March	357 Nelly Gray
108 America 40 Denials		320 I	358 Annie Laurie
109 Webb 70 Greenville		321 I	359 The Last Rose of Summer
110 The Sweet Bye and Bye		322 I	360 Waltz—German Hearts—Strauss
111 Neener, My God, to Thee		323 I	361 See Saw Waltz—Crows
112 I Need Thee Every Hour		324 V	362 Dearest May
113 From Greenville's Ivy Mountains		325 Waltz—Till We Meet Again	363 The Golden Shippers
114 Duke Street		326 The Arkusaw Traveler	364 Belle Mahone
115 I'll Stand by Until the Morning		327 Kiss Waltz—Strauss	365 College Hornpipe
116 The Shining Shore—Nelson		328 I'll be in Your Pocket	366 The Zigzag Clog
117 Hold the Fort—P. F. Bliss		329 Johnny Get Your Hair Cut	367 Medley Jig
118 Just as I Am		330 Baby's Empty Cradle	368 Tramp, Tramp
119 He Leadeth Me		331 Scotch Lassic Jean	369 Poor Old Dad
120 I Love to Tell the Story		332 The Irish Washerwoman	370 Cuckoo Song
121 The Home Over There		333 The Devil's Dream	371 Money Musk
122 Is My Name Written There		334 Jingle Bells	

Given as a premium for 20 yearly subscribers.

We offer it for sale for \$6, including one year's subscription to this paper. In each case receiver to pay express charges on about 45 pounds. Name express office if different from post-office address.

The Popular Harp. Premium No. 347.



This excellent harp is easy to blow, and has ten notes. It is handsome in appearance. The reeds and tongue are made by experienced workmen, giving accuracy to the notes and producing perfect melody. Buying in large quantities, we are enabled to offer them at a very low price.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

We offer it for sale for 15 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.



Concert Bell Harmonica. Prem. No. 703.

Something new and very good. It is designed for persons that know all the mysteries of harp playing. The wood part is made of hard wood, handsomely polished in light color, and the balance is nickel-plated. It has ten holes or notes, double reeds and two bells, one on each side. Only one is shown in the cut. They are tuned in unison and have bone keys. They are adapted for professional and artists' use as well as for the amateur.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 90 cents.

We offer it for sale for 70 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

600 Popular Songs, all with the Words and Music. Premium No. 218.

A collection of the world's most popular songs, comprising American, English, Scotch and Irish songs of all kinds—Sentimental, Comic, Operatic and Ethiopian. Words and music with every song. 256 pages. Why pay 30 to 50 cents for one song, when you can get this large book with 600 songs for only 25 cents?

It includes the Very Latest Popular Songs.

The following is a partial list of the titles. We have not room to name half of the songs contained in this book:

Little Annie Rooney		1 Whistle and Wait for Katis	
Annie Laurie	Eureka	Little Fisher Maiden	Old Dan Tucker
Baby mine	Fisher's child	Kitty Darling	Old Grimes
Bay of Biscay	First love	Lilly Dale	Old Ireland for'er
Canaan	Gaffer Grey	Lottie Bell	Old Joe
Captain Jinks	Galley Slave	Lorelei	Old King Cole
Dandy Pat	Huldy Ann	Mary Blane	Old King Crow
Danube River	Janet's choice	Mary's dream	Old kitchen clock
Araby's daughter	Chavale's lament	Nelly Gray	Old maid's ball
Auld lang syne	Cheer of kitchen	Roslin castle	Old oaken bucket
Bachelor's fare	Coal black rose	Rural felicity	Old Tubal Cain
Bacon and greens	Colleen Bawn	Scotch cottage	Old gray goose
Beautiful bells	Come back to Erin	Settin' on a rail	Old King Cole
Beautiful Bessie	Concealment	Shabby gentee	Old King Crow
Be gone dull care	Darby the blast	Shule agra	Old kitchen clock
Bell Brandon	Dearest Mac	Solomon's temple	Old maid's ball
Ben Bolt	Departed days	Squeak the fife	Old oaken bucket
Bessy's mistake	Dermot Astore	Standard-bearer	Old Tubal Cain
Betsy Baker	Ding-dong, bell	Standard watch	Old gray goose
Beware	Don't come late	Sweet Kitty May	Old King Cole
Birds in the night	Dream is past	Sweet long ago	Old King Crow
Blue-eyed Mary	Emerald Isle	Ten little niggers	Old kitchen clock
Blue-eyed Milly	Ever of thee	Three blind mice	Old maid's ball
Black-eyed Susan	Fairy temper	'Tis midnight	Old oaken bucket
Blue tail fly	Farwell ladies	Twilight dew	Old Tubal Cain
Bird privateer	Farm's boy	Twilight dew	Old gray goose
Bonnie doon	Finigan's wake	Twilight dew	Old King Cole
Bonnie Dundee	Flee as a bird	Twilight dew	Old King Crow
Brave old oak	Flying trapeze	Twilight dew	Old kitchen clock
Broken yoke	Garibaldi hymn	Twilight dew	Old maid's ball
Brose and butter	Ginger's wedding	Twilight dew	Old oaken bucket
Bruce's address	Girls and boys	Twilight dew	Old Tubal Cain
Bryan O'Lynn	Give a kiss to me	Twilight dew	Old gray goose
Buy a broom	Green sleeves	Twilight dew	Old King Cole
Calder Herin	Gumbo chaff	Twilight dew	Old King Crow
Castilian maid	Hail Columbia	Twilight dew	Old kitchen clock
Castles in the air	Happy thought	Twilight dew	Old maid's ball
Chariv	Highland Mary	Twilight dew	Old oaken bucket

AND NEARLY 400 OTHERS.

Given as a premium to any one sending 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 65 cents.

We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

The "Aimee" Solo Accordion. Prem. No. 300.

The "Aimee" is a new and excellent musical instrument with "Sublime Harmonie" accompaniment, two sets silver reeds, duet, honized molding, bound in nickel, double bellows, imitation morocco leather binding, nickel clasps and corners, three rows of silver trumpets. The monotony of the accompaniment or basses of an accordion is too well known to need describing; in fact, it is the everlasting sound of the two chords, both in the same pitch, that has made the instrument so tiring and disagreeable to any one who has even a slight knowledge of music. The improvement does entirely away with this great objection to the accordion, as it has an accompaniment which can be varied and manipulated in almost numberless different ways; and, best of all, it requires very little practice for one who understands the instrument, and is very easy for a beginner to learn. The "Sublime Harmonie" accompaniment consists of an extra set of eight reeds, tuned to a different pitch from the one already on the accordion, making fourteen reeds instead of only six, as heretofore used for the accompaniment. The duet set of reeds which is used in the accordion is not a new idea. It has already been in use, but only in large, expensive instruments, with three or four sets of reeds. The improvements that have been made, notwithstanding they are very great, and making almost a new musical instrument of the accordion, has added very little to the cost. Therefore, this instrument is offered at a price equally as low or lower than any in the market of the same style and finish. A solo accordion instruction book goes with each instrument. It shows the manner in which the "Sublime Harmonie" accompaniment can be used; that is, the different styles of accompaniment that can be played, and also a self-instructor for beginners who do not understand music. The accordion must go by express, receiver to pay charges, which will be light.

Given as a premium for 18 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$4.25.

We offer it for sale for \$4. Give your express office if different from your post-office address.

Violin Outfit. Premium No. 181.



This outfit consists of one violin, model "Stradivarius," color, nut-brown, dead finish, imitation hardwood, ebony trimmings. The bow is Brazilwood stick, ebony frog inlaid (pearl dot), pearl slide, German silver band and bone screw-head. The case is of wood, varnished, half lined with flannel, brass hooks and handle-curved top. The instruction book is Coe's "Popular Violin Method," an easy violin instructor, containing the latest music, with full instructions. One full set of extra strings and one box of rosin. The top and back of this violin are worked out just the same as the best that are made, and is also of the same model. It produces a splendid tone, full, rich and brilliant. Tune it up to concert pitch and keep it there one week, and we are ready to compare the tone with that of any violin made. While examining this low-priced instrument, please notice the manner in which it is trimmed and strung up—the strings, finger-boards, tail-pieces, pegs, bridges and necks; these are all good, well made and durable, and is suitable, just as received, to be tuned up and played upon any occasion.

Given as a premium for 15 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, \$4.25.

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Dance, Money in both pockets, Green grow the rushes, Johnny's made a wedding, Tarn's Highland fling, Cameron's got his wife.

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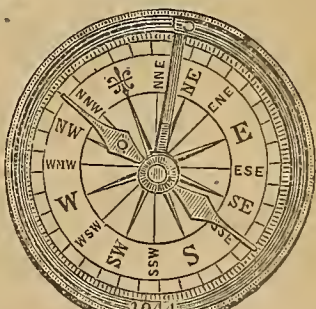
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This compass is 2 inches in diameter, and has a dial with all the degrees shown upon it. It has a strong glass face, and is encased in a solid brass case. Also has a convenient suspension ring not shown in cut.

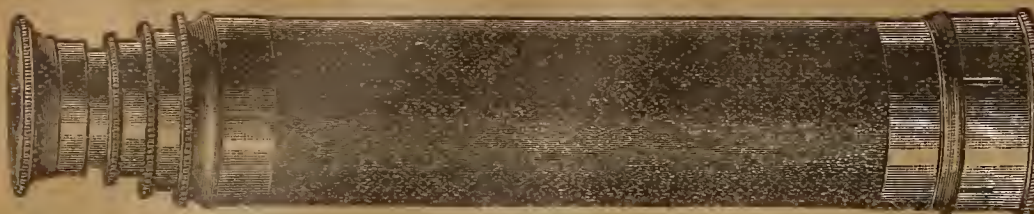
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This excellent and powerful Telescope is not one of the cheap kind with which the country has lately been flooded, and which we do not think worth offering to our subscribers. Ours is handsome in appearance, well made in all particulars, and possesses great merit. It has three draws, is 15 inches long when drawn out, or 6 inches long when closed. The object-glass is 1 inch in diameter. Power 15 times. It also has an achromatic object-glass.

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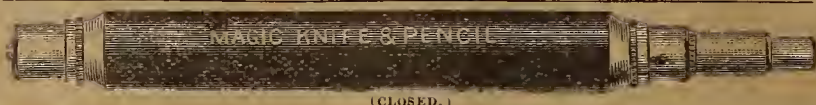
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A Wonderful Novelty and Useful Invention.

The blade is easily and quickly moved out or in by pressing on the end opposite the blade. When open, the blade is held firmly in place, and when closed it is effectually protected from dirt and rust. When you wish to use the pencil, take it out of the socket in the case, hold it point downward and press upon the cap until the lead has reached the desired length, then release the pressure, when it will be firmly held, ready for use. To return the lead, reverse the pencil, pressing upon the cap until the lead recedes. There are no sharp corners or points to damage the pocket. It is strong and durable, being made of the best material, and is also elegant in finish and appearance.

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(CLOSED.)



(SHOWING KNIFE AND PENCIL BOTH OPEN.)

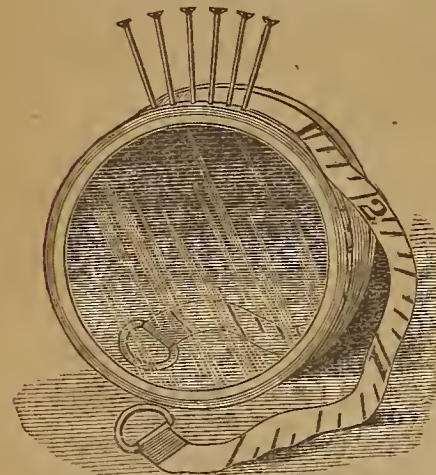
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A PRICE
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This is a device to aid children in drawing. It combines a scale, protractor, square and dividers. Any line can be drawn—triangles, pentagons, hexagons, polygons, etc. It exercises the ingenuity of the student in drawing, and is a source of endless amusement and pleasure to young folks. To encourage children to design, the manufacturer of this unique and useful device offers to boys and girls under twenty years of age cash premiums, aggregating \$100 in gold, for the best original designs submitted before January 1, 1892. Full particulars accompany each Geometrigraph.

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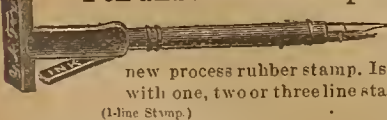
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Four indispensable articles combined in one case at the price of one, and only occupying the space of one. Nothing similar has been invented that could be offered to our readers with more satisfaction. Nearly everyone carries a pocket mirror, pincushion and tape-measure, and uses them many times a day, and a far larger number would use them and find themselves convenience if they possessed this handy combination. It is heavily nickel-plated, has a strong, clear mirror, places for a dozen pins, and a tape-measure 36 inches long. The addition of a perpetual calendar makes it more valuable than ever.

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Pen and Pencil Stamp. Premium No. 451.

(1-line Stamp.)

This stamp has grown enormously popular because of its great usefulness. It combines a pen, pencil and new process rubber stamp. Is nickel-plated and always ready for use. We furnish it with one, two or three-line stamp, with any name desired, about like the following:

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(3-line Stamp.)

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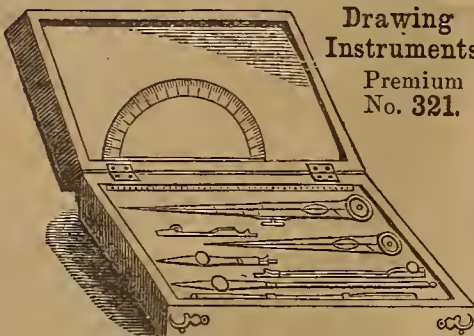
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LOS ANGELES, CAL.

HARRY SIMON,
KINGSTON,
Holborn Co., - Neb.

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A plush-lined box of serviceable, well-finished instruments, with a pair of 4 1/2-inch dividers, pen and pencil points and lengthening-bar, drawing-pen, brass protractor, wood rule and screw-driver.

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With new process rubber stamp. It is one of the best self-inkers ever made. Is light, durable and not liable to get out of order. Handsomely nickel-plated, and with japanned handle, it is very neat in appearance, and is invaluable to any one having considerable correspondence. With it, letters, envelopes, etc., can be stamped with your name and post-office address. Furnished with one, two or three lines. We show a sample three-line stamp:

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The Perfect Pocket-Printer. Prem. No. 209.**A Perfect Linen-Marker, Card-Printer and Book-Marker.**

Though cheapness is the leading feature of this outfit, it must not be thought that it is in any way inferior in quality, as it is made by improved machinery gotten up expressly for it. In this way outfits of at least double the value are produced at low prices.

The Pocket-Printer is in every way complete, containing all the type shown in cut, sufficient to print any ordinary name. Also a nickel-plated metal type-holder, a brass tube of the very best indelible ink (which is at any store worth almost the price of the whole outfit), a felt inking-pad and a pair of steel tweezers. Also, full directions "How to be a printer." It is sent in a neat case.

Little Gem Bank.

Premium No. 89.



A most useful article in every family. Boys and girls, by having one of these banks, will learn valuable lessons of economy and thrift, illustrating the old maxim that a dollar saved is as good as two earned. They hold 50 dimes, and cannot be opened till \$5.00 has been deposited. The amount deposited is always visible. The accompanying illustration is full size of the bank.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price, including one year's subscription, 60 cents.

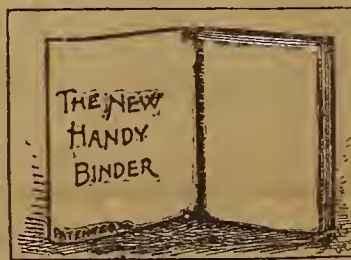
We offer it for sale for 15 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Farm and Fireside Binder.

Premium No. 621.

Preserve Your Copies of this Paper in this Handy Binder and Make it a Valuable Work of Reference.

It is handsomely gotten up, with cloth back and the name of this paper stamped on in gilt. In this device the binding is admirably effected by the use of slender spring brass binding-loops, with a U-shaped projection in their centers, designed to encircle a



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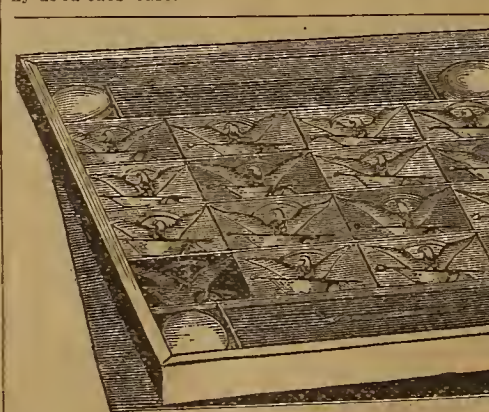
Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers.

Price, including one year's subscription, 90 cents. We offer it for sale for 50 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

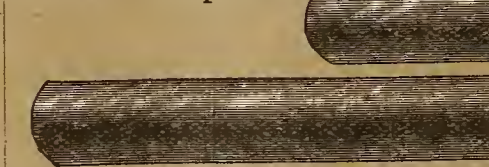


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NEW HANDY SELF BINDER

**Scholar's Companion.**

Premium No. 76.



The Scholar's Companion consists of a stained, ing one good lead-pencil, with about one inch of rule, one slate-pencil, covered with wood to protect it from being broken, one penholder and pen. It makes a very neat and convenient outfit for school children.

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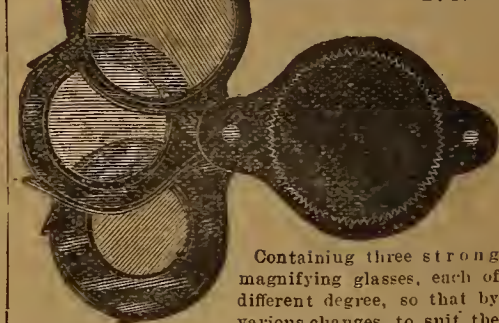
Tripod Microscope.**Premium No. 9.**

Does the same work as French Microscopes that sell for one dollar each.

The lens is accurately ground and well mounted for examining silk, linen, seeds, insects, bank notes, and various other things. It is an article that should be in the hands of children as well as grown people, as they get more instruction and amusement from it in an

hour than they would without its aid in weeks. Farmers, merchants, miners, clerks, students and ladies all have use for it. The smallest seed or insect, a drop of milk, the tiniest screw, the quality of linen or silk, quality of stone or ore, the genuineness of a note or coin, the quality of lace, microscopic objects of nature, etc., all come within the scope of this instrument.

Given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber. Price, including one year's subscription, 70 cents. We offer it for sale for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Combination Microscope. Premium No. 178.

Containing three strong magnifying glasses, each of different degree, so that by various changes, to suit the

object to be examined, you can secure a wonderful and perfect insight into the "hidden secrets of Nature." With it you can examine the growth of flowers, the injuries to live stock, detect counterfeit money, and also find impurities in sugar, ground coffee, rice and other food.

Given as a premium for 3 yearly subscribers. Price, including one year's subscription, 90 cents. We offer it for sale for 75 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Fine Wood Stereoscope. Prem. No. 313.

This is an excellent wood stereoscope, with lenses of fine quality, and every part well made, nicely fitted and very strong.

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Price, including one year's subscription, 90 cents. We offer it for sale for 75 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

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Our propelling pencil for the pocket is the best thing of the kind that is offered. It is handsomely finished with black japan, and varnished and trimmed with nickel. The rubber tip is reversible and is always kept clean when carried in the pocket. Our propelling pencil needs no sharpening, and a lead will last for a month. With the pencil we send a box that holds twelve leads. The box of leads and pencil usually retail for 50 cents.

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Any of the articles described in this Premium List may be secured Free by securing the required number of subscribers.

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Will prevent mistakes, relieve the mind, save labor, time and money, and do your reckoning in the twinkling of an eye. A ready calculator, business arithmetic and account-book combined. It contains nearly all the short cuts known; hundreds of simple rules and original methods for easy and rapid calculation, and millions of accurate answers to business examples and to practical problems. It will enable everybody to become proficient and quick in figures. **No Farmer, Mechanic or Business Man should be without it, because**

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The number of Bushels and pounds in a load of Wheat, Corn, Rye, Oats or Barley and the correct amount for same, at any price per bushel.

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IT HAS A BEAUTIFUL ILLUMINATED COVER

And is an elegant and admirably arranged volume of recipes for practical, every-day use.

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As it is the Latest, Best and Most Practical Cook Book Published, More Nearly Meeting the Wants of American Homes than any other.

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This work is the "Uncle Tom's Cabin of the Horse." It is the latest popular book in the literary world. Nearly 300,000 copies have already been sold in America



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HANDY HORSE BOOK. Prem. 820.

A complete manual for horsemen, embracing How to Breed, Buy, Train, Use, Feed, Drive, and How to Ride a Horse. It also gives the symptoms, causes and cures of all known horse diseases. It is invaluable when horses are attacked with diseases requiring prompt attention, and in districts remote from veterinary surgeons, because it enables any one to doctor their own horse. It contains a large number of illustrations. No one who owns or uses a horse should fail to have a copy of this book. The veterinary department was edited by Dr. A. T. Wilson, who was in active practice for fifty years. More than 250 topics are indexed, among them are Plans for Stables, Care and Management of Colts, Breeding, Control of Sex, Age as shown by Body and Teeth, Appetite, Bots, Colic, Cough, Cramps, Cribbing, Curb, Distemper, Blindness, Food and Drink, Hoofs, Lameness, Rheumatism, Rupture, Worms, Sprain, Ringbone, Spavin and over 200 other subjects of great value to all owners of horses.

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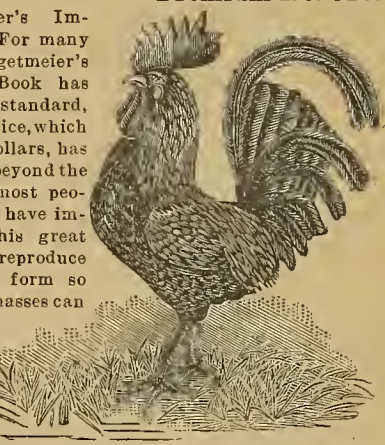
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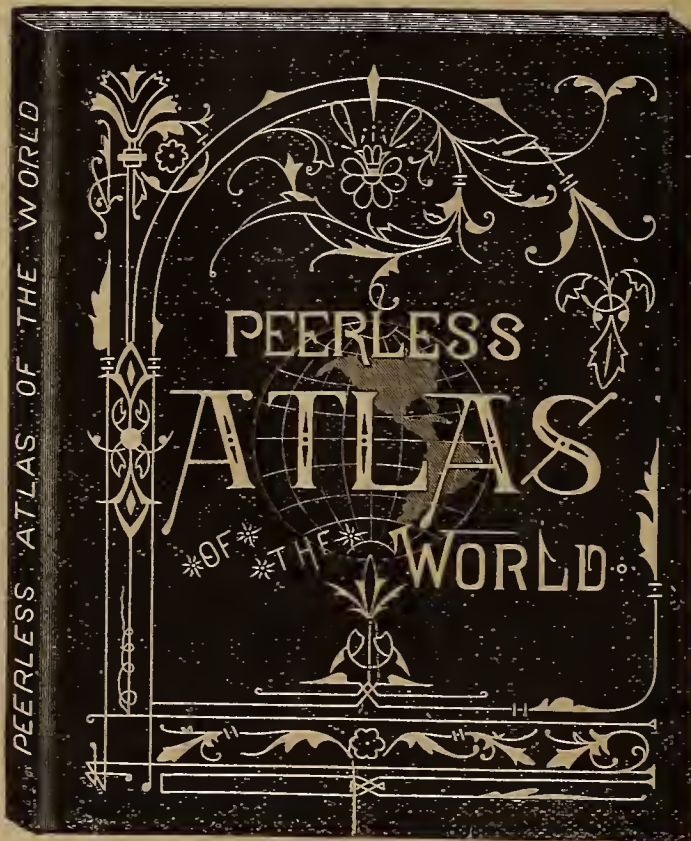
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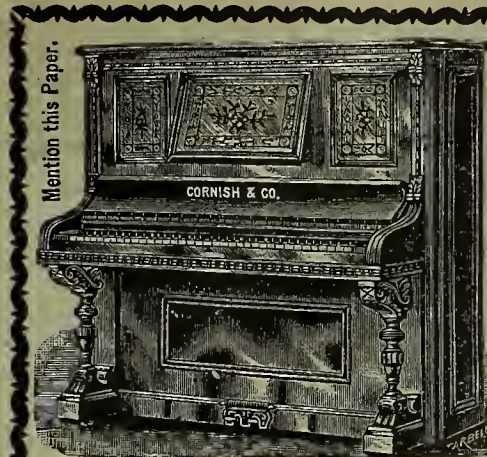
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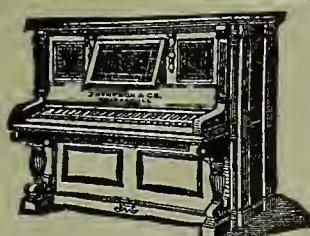
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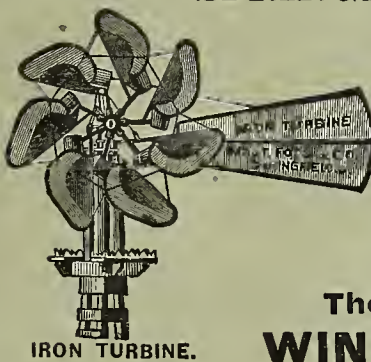
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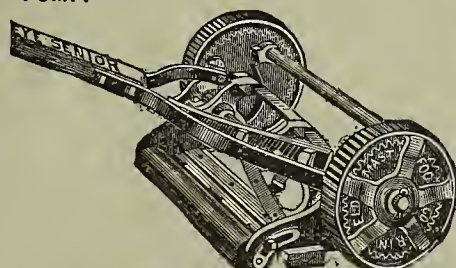
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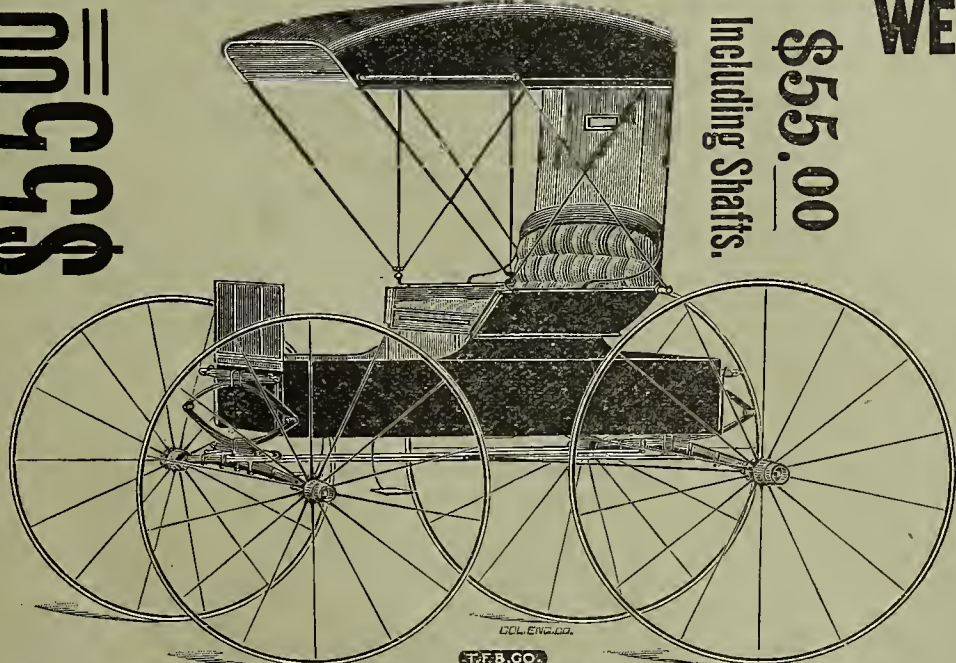
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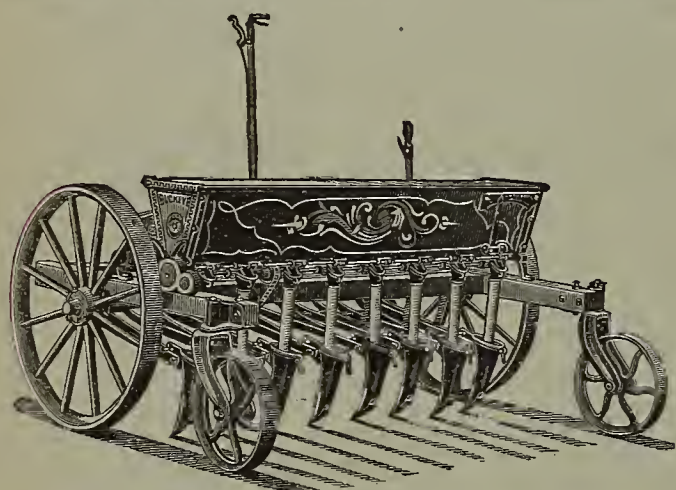
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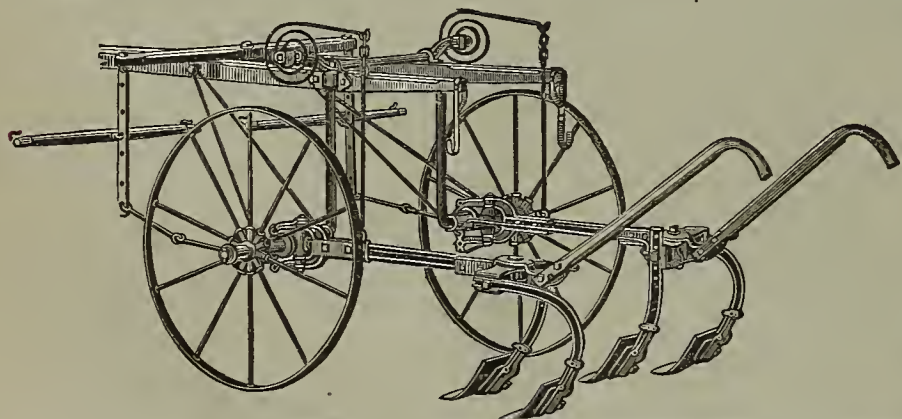
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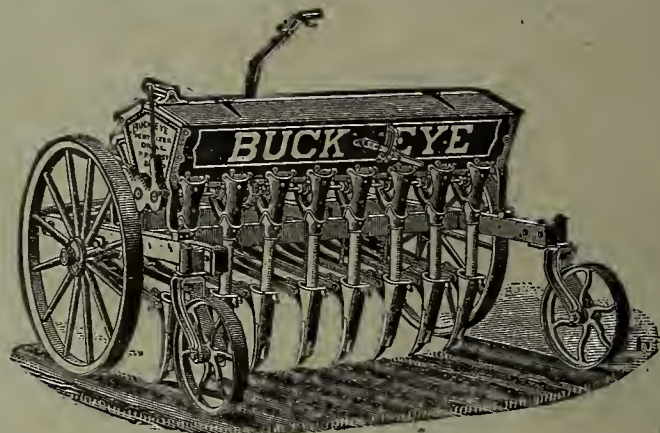
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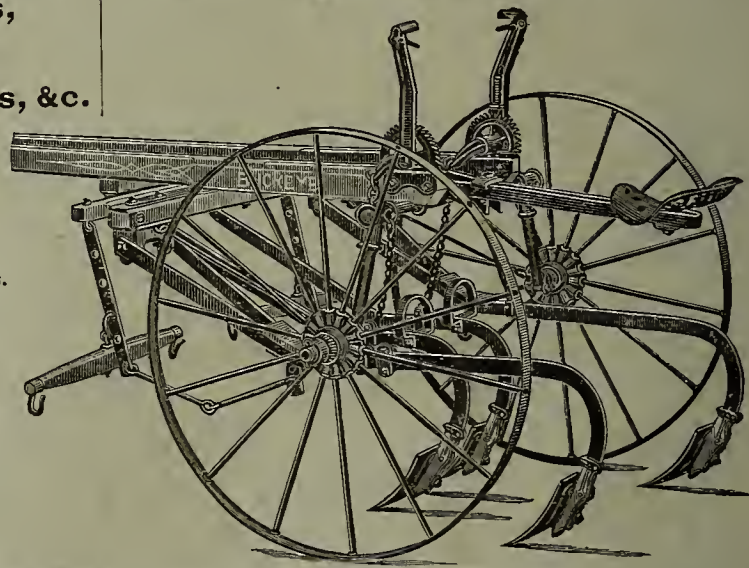
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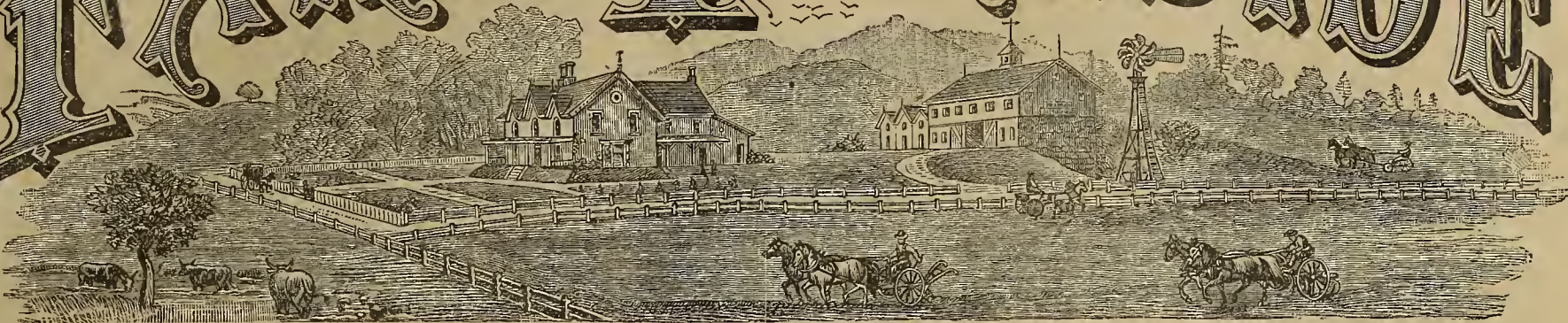
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FARM & FIRESIDE



EASTERN EDITION.

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Current Comment.

A RECENT number of the *Cincinnati Price Current* contains a special report on the great corn crop of 1891, from which we take the following:

"The aggregate shown for the corn crop is 1,990,000,000 bushels for the entire country. This is 500,000,000 bushels more than in 1890, and 123,000,000 below the officially estimated production in 1889, when the total was 2,113,000,000 bushels—probably an overestimate of fully 5 per cent, or about 100,000,000 bushels.

"For a period of ten years previous to 1891 the yearly average production of corn was 1,680,000,000 bushels, according to official estimates. The exports during the same time averaged 50,000,000 bushels annually, ranging from 24,000,000 in 1887-88 to 102,000,000 in 1889-90. These data suggest that the domestic consumption of corn the past ten years has averaged about 1,630,000,000 bushels annually. The population of the country is now 12 per cent greater than the average population for ten years previous to the current year. If this be taken as a basis of calculation in regard to domestic needs, the logical deduction would be that a crop of 1,825,000,000 bushels will be essential this season to maintain the average supply for such purposes—and if, say, 2,000,000,000 bushels be harvested, it will admit of 175,000,000 bushels for export and for enlarging reserves, the latter being lower than ordinarily. The consumption of corn is variable, however, from year to year, under influence of shifting conditions with reference to the fattening of animals. The production the past three years has averaged 1,865,000,000 bushels annually, the exports, 65,000,000, leaving 1,800,000,000 bushels as the apparent yearly domestic consumption during this period, the reserves at the close probably not varying essentially compared with three years ago."

The conditions abroad justify the expectation that all the corn we will have to spare, 175,000,000 bushels, will be exported at fair prices. The conditions in this country are unusually favorable. A large corn crop follows an immense wheat crop, and a foreign demand exists for all our surplus of both. Fair prices for both will be realized. And the markets will be cleared for the next crops. The signs for the future are hopeful.

But there is a dark side to this great corn crop. The estimated average yield per acre is only 25½ bushels. The average yield for the seven years preceding this is only 23½ bushels. This means that much, probably half, of this magnificent crop of nearly two thousand million bushels was produced without one cent of profit to the growers.

Now, have these growers any right to expect that exceedingly high prices will be maintained just to help them out? The only thing that will help them out is better farming. While this year's corn crop has had some narrow escapes from excessive moisture, from drouth, from frost and from other adverse results of the operation of nature's laws, the low average yield can be charged to nothing else than to poor farming.

THE postmaster-general has been making some experiments with the free delivery system in small villages. Early in his term he conceived the idea that the free delivery system could be extended to the small towns and farming districts without materially increasing the expense to the department. Congress made an appropriation of \$10,000 for the experiments. About \$200 was expended at each place. It is reported that in forty or more towns where the experiment has been in operation, it is found that the revenues of the offices have been greatly increased; and that while in some cases they have not entirely met the expenditure, yet in every case the receipts have been greatly increased, and it is believed that on the whole, the total of extra income from the whole number of towns will almost, if not quite, equal the total expenditure of \$10,000.

The principle underlying all this is that increased postal facilities are always followed by increased postal business and increased revenues. When letter postage was reduced from three to two cents, postal business soon increased enough to bring the revenues of the department up to its expenditures. With the principle properly applied, the day is not far distant when we shall not only have the free delivery system greatly extended, but penny postage, also.

A SENATE sub-committee was appointed at the last session of Congress to study and report on the results of tariff legislation. This committee has been at work for several months ascertaining the facts relating to prices, wages, cost of living, etc., for a series of years. Senator Carlisle, of the committee, says:

"We have agreed upon a list of more than two hundred articles in common use among the people, and have been getting the retail prices of those articles at about seventy representative cities in the United States from September, 1889, to September, 1891, and the wholesale prices of the same articles for the same period at six of the most important cities. This work has been done through the agents of the Department of Labor at Washington, and is nearly completed.

"The sub-committee is also procuring the wholesale prices of a great number of articles, foreign and domestic, for a period of fifty years, or as far back as the prices can be ascertained, for many of the articles now in common use were unknown fifty years ago. The wages of laborers in mining and mercantile industries and in agriculture will also be ascertained for as long a period as possible, and in connection with this and the other inquiries an effort will be made to ascertain the average annual cost of living of a great number of representative families having an income ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 per annum. It is believed that this can be

ascertained approximately; at least so that we may be able to determine about how much is expended for clothing, how much for food of different kinds and how much for rent and other items which enter into the cost of living in this country.

"We propose also to ascertain the prices of agricultural products at the farms for a series of years, and the cost of transportation to the markets. It is our purpose to conduct the investigation from the standpoint of the consumer as far as possible. In other words, we propose to begin the investigation of prices in what may be called the primary market and trace the articles until they reach the consumer. We want to find what prices the consumer has at different times been compelled to pay for the necessities of life, and why he has been compelled to pay those prices, whether it has been on account of tariffs, or cost of transportation, or the extortions of middlemen, or other causes. Of course, in conducting such an investigation with such an object in view, we must consider the prices of articles which are not affected by tariffs, as well as the prices of articles that are affected by them. In no other way could we possibly ascertain what the effects of tariffs are."

SPRAYING fruit has received an advertisement that will result in making known its merits far and wide. The New York City board of health recently condemned grapes on the market that showed signs of poison on the stems, and had tons of them destroyed. The hasty action of the board caused a grape panic. An investigation showed that the grapes had been sprayed with a solution of the Bordeaux mixture, and that traces of the sulphate of copper remained on the stems. The matter was referred to the department of agriculture, which has for several years been recommending the spraying of grapes with this mixture, as a preventive against fungous diseases. The department officially replied that over a ton of grapes, sprayed eight times with the mixture, would be required to furnish a single poisonous dose. After consumers understand it, they will not hesitate to purchase perfect fruit because of the means used to make it so, as long as they are harmless.

THE value of the exports from the United States for the twelve months ending August 31, 1891, was \$909,264,438, an increase of \$52,784,377 over the exports of the preceding twelve months. The value of the imports for the same period was \$839,093,241, an increase of \$37,877,744. Directly contrary to these facts are the statements of the calamity cranks, who are going about the country howling over the decadence of our foreign commerce. And some of these same cranks want to be elected to Congress for the purpose of getting their theories embodied in laws for the promotion of our national prosperity.

THE political leaders of the Alliance claim that they can control over fifty votes in the next Congress. They have decided to push three measures. First in importance is the sub-treasury scheme, the loaning of United States treasury notes on deposits of non-perishable farm and mechanical products. Second is the land-loan scheme, the loan-

ing of United States treasury notes on real estate security. The leaders now repudiate the Stanford land-loan bill introduced in the last Congress and will have a new one brought in. The third principal measure is free and unlimited silver coinage. With this they will have plain sailing, as they will only have to unite with the free silver men of both the old parties. And this is the only measure they have any good prospect of pushing through Congress.

THE production of seeds has become an important industry. The results of the first census investigation ever made in this industry have just been published in a bulletin. The report says, that while seed growing has been carried on as a business for more than a century, it is only within the past thirty years that it has assumed large proportions. More than one half the seed farms reported were started between 1870 and 1890. In 1890 there were five hundred and ninety-six farms, containing 169,851 acres, devoted exclusively to seed raising, of which 96,567¼ acres were reported as producing seeds. These seed farms represented a total value of land, implements and buildings of \$18,325,935.86, and employed in the census year 13,500 men and 1,541 women.

IN answer to a correspondent, we would briefly say that for every dollar silver certificate issued by the government there is a dollar's worth of silver bullion deposited in the United States treasury. The silver certificates are redeemable in either standard gold or silver dollars, at the option of the treasurer.

Only so much of the silver bullion deposited is now required to be coined as is necessary to redeem the certificates presented.

At the present time the intrinsic value of the metal in a silver dollar is about seventy-six cents, but the other twenty-four cents are in the treasury of the United States, instead of in the pockets of the silver kings, as they would be under free and unlimited silver coinage.

IT may be well to remind Ohio voters of some things in regard to the taxation amendment. To carry, it must have a majority of all the votes cast. For the first time Ohio has the Australian official ballot. For the amendment to carry, more than one half of the ballots cast must have the cross-mark before "Taxation Amendment—Yes." In their endeavor to prevent mistakes, the different parties are urging their adherents to vote straight tickets. This is done by putting a cross-mark before one of the party names at the head of the ticket. There is danger that many will do this alone, not voting at all on the two questions at the bottom of the official ballot. Votes neither for nor against will count against both the taxation amendment and the constitutional convention.

NO small portion of the corn crop will be hurried to market in November and December as soon as harvested. The foreign demand for corn will not come until later in the season, probably not before March. The foreign demand promises to be much larger than ever before. The growers who rush their corn to market cannot receive much benefit from the higher prices that will almost certainly prevail.

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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Our Farm.

COMMENTS ON CURRENT LITERATURE.

BY JOSEPH (T. GREINER.)

CHESTNUTS FOR PROFIT.—Some of our readers, when they see this sub-heading, may say that this whole nut business is a chestnut. Sometimes I think so myself; and yet I have been one of the most enthusiastic advocates of "nut culture for profit." We have talked a good deal about it, but very little has been accomplished. Personally, I do not know of a single nut grove established outside of the places of nurserymen; and these people make more money from the sale of nut-trees than of the nuts grown in their groves. I think this is the case with my friend Moon, who "pushes" the Numbo, and the Engels, who push the Paragon. My own experience with the walnuts and the filberts and the chestnuts, and still more so with the pecans, are anything but encouraging. It is true that I have gathered a good crop of English walnuts from trees around the house I once occupied in New Jersey, and that these same trees bore pretty fair crops almost every year. It is true that I have seen stately specimens of English walnuts in full bearing in Pennsylvania, in eastern New York, and even as far north as Rochester, New York. It is also true that from nuts grown on these trees, groves might be started in similar situations, and perhaps in protected spots anywhere in the middle states, and that such groves might in the end prove quite profitable. But why is it not done? Nut-trees can be successfully transplanted. I have moved English walnut seedlings almost every year until they were five or six years old, and lost but few trees. But the process of transplanting does not improve them. In fact, I believe it pretty much destroys their vitality and usefulness. Their growth in early life is but slow at best, while their decay in later years proceeds pretty fast. Pecans transplanted several times have made next to no growth. I believe a grove should be started from nuts right where the trees are to remain.

But here comes another trouble. Seedlings vary. When you plant a nut and let the tree grow up naturally, you cannot tell what kind of a nut it will bear. It may be good, and it may be worthless. Grafting and budding are uncertain operations. They may be performed successfully by skilled old-country growers; but there are few people in this country who can undertake the job with any kind of prospects of success.

All these things come to my mind when I look at Bulletin 16, of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station (State College, Centre county, Pa.) It contains

a treatise on "Chestnut culture for fruit," by Prof. Wm. A. Buckhout. Yet I believe in chestnut culture for profit. I have known many instances where groves of trees of the original timber, or volunteer trees along roadsides and in waste places, trees which had been spared just for their fruit, have borne profitable crops for years, and been a steady source of income for farmers and their families. Why should improved varieties, especially if planted in regular orchards and properly taken care of, not do still better?

The problem again is how to reproduce the desired and desirable kinds. Very few attempts to plant the Paragon resulted in failure, simply because the whole grafted top soon died down to the point of union. Whether this was due to a wrong method of grafting, or because the stock selected was not congenial to the graft and refused to unite properly, I am unable to say. I can only state the fact.

Soil also has its influence. The chestnut grows naturally on light, gravelly soil, and on such only it should be planted. It has been noticed, says Prof. Buckhout, that near the borders of the area in which this tree is native, it is quite liable to be barren, or to attain a meager size and development. To avoid disappointment one should satisfy himself that both climate and soil conditions are favorable before attempting chestnut culture.

The nut loses its vitality in a remarkably short time. Hence, if trees are to be grown from seed, the nut should be planted soon after it is gathered; or else should be protected from drying out, which is best done by storing it in sand or moss. In raising chestnut-trees from the seed, says Prof. Buckhout, care should be taken to secure fresh nuts. They should not be put so deep that the stem finds difficulty in getting into the air, nor so poorly covered that they will dry out before germination. The use of the foot in seed-sowing to press the ground about the root should be carefully observed. On rough, stony ground, containing roots of various shrubs, all the operations of planting are more tedious than in other situations, but success cannot be had without proper observance of them. Very bushy land must be cut and burned over before planting. It must not be supposed that because the chestnut is a forest tree it will grow anywhere. After it is once thoroughly established it will hold its own, but in order to get a start and foothold, it must have much of the same help and protection which are given to any cultivated plant. The seedlings must have light and air, and will not thrive in the shade nor when crowded by sprout growth or other vegetation. Transplanting seedling-trees is always attended by a check on growth and vigor which lasts two years or more, and they are easily outstripped by the others.

The slaty and sandy hills and mountain slopes so common throughout Pennsylvania offer excellent conditions for chestnut culture of this kind. A few acres on each farm planted to chestnuts would entail no great expense or labor, and would at least renew the wooded covering which protects the surface from washing, holds the leaves and vegetable debris, and gradually accumulates humus to enrich the soil. Few trees are more useful to the farmer in furnishing posts and other material for farm use, and with proper care in thinning, trimming and protecting, they would in time become bearing trees—a chestnut orchard—as reliable a source of income as an orchard of any kind of fruit.

Where there is a natural sprout growth of chestnut on land which is often abandoned and left to run to waste, there is an excellent opportunity for securing an excellent orchard of nut-trees at a very small expense and trouble. The chestnut sprouts should be thinned out gradually until they are so far apart that they will not interfere with one another. Trees so exposed will develop short trunks and low, round-headed tops, and will come into bearing much sooner than otherwise. Such sprout growth can also be treated in some other way. If taken when they are still young and small, they can be grafted with scions of any of the named varieties which are now offered by nurserymen.

The advantage of grafting is twofold. It brings the tree into bearing in from one half to one fourth of the time required from the natural tree, and it produces fruit of known character. The European, and perhaps the Japanese varieties, also can

thus be quickly fruited on the American stocks. Top-grafting by both cleft and tongue methods are recommended by those who have had the most experience. Scions should be cut early and kept dormant, as are apple scions, until ready to be used.

Altogether, I think the aim is a worthy one, and more efforts should be made on the part of farmers having land suitable for the purpose.

"VEST-POCKET," OR CART-LOAD FERTILIZERS—WHICH?

EDITOR FARM AND FIRESIDE:—Is there not an analogy in the requirements of plant food and that of animals? A concentrated food for cattle and fowls, and even the human race, may possess all the nutriment required for sustenance, but the animal nature, to thrive, requires, in connection with concentrated nutriment, more bulky material. Do not the sandy soils of New Jersey and the South particularly, require coarse fertilizers, stable manures, muck or humus in some shape to give "body" to the soil? To get the information I want more clearly perhaps, will planting a tree growth in sandy soils get the same benefit from potash, phosphoric acid and nitrogen applied in a concentrated state, as if applied in stable manure, muck or other decayed vegetable matter? There are many advocates of "vest-pocket" fertilizers, claiming not only as permanent value to the soil, but greater perfection of plant and tree growth, and choiceness of fruit. Have directors of experiment stations or other authorities settled this question?

G. W. H.

WHERE TO RAISE SHEEP—\$1,000 CAPITAL.

A gentleman in Westchester county, Pa., writes: "Do you think there is any locality where a man could start in sheep-raising with as little as \$1,000, with any show of success?"

As this question is often asked by young men who are looking ahead for a life business, I am glad to talk to them through the FARM AND FIRESIDE. Ten years ago there would have been no hesitancy in saying, with Horace Greeley, "Go west, young man; go west." Sheep-raising then meant wool-growing as the main business.

Marvelous changes have taken place in the sheep industry since. A time of depression has come to the industry, compelling sober thought and consideration. Fortunately, at this darkest hour for sheepmen, since most of us can recollect, the demand for mutton has suddenly taken the surplus of the flocks at prices that have greatly relieved the embarrassed situation. This demand happily came at a time when wool-growers were reduced to the direst extremity.

This was most fortunate and timely. It opened up new hopes and prospects, at a time when most needed. Previous to this, wool had been the prime product, with mutton as a secondary consideration. The three lines of sheep-raising were breeding animals for improving the flock, wool-growing and mutton-raising.

Manure, though an important adjunct to farming, had less consideration than its due save with a few. This had all been favorable to the merino sheep, and ninety per cent of all sheep in the United States were of that breed.

The British breeds had long been in special favor with the few, but they were compelled to compete with the merinos as wool-bearers, and it was not their special fitness. They were given a second place to fill, which they resented by deterioration of carcass and less hardiness. The treatment was such as wool-growers gave their flock, not such as was due the largest mutton breeds.

The change, or better, the development, of sheep-husbandry greatly diversified the lines of sheep-raising, as we shall call the different products and managements requisite to success. There are now hundreds, we might well have said thousands, of stud-flocks, embracing nearly every breed and variety of sheep known in Europe and America. There are flocks for wool both on farms and on ranges; but as a rule these flocks, no matter where situated, have been tending to size of carcass with the mutton idea. The railroads have given possibility of the sheep of the ranges profitably meeting the sheep of the farms in the mutton market as grass-mutton. This has been an unlooked-for com-

petition, and has caused the farmers who grow large crops of grain, cheap corn and hay, to turn their attention to feeding sheep for the market when grass-mutton of the ranges cannot supply the markets of the East. These range sheep are found to take very kindly to grain rations, and to make very desirable mutton. So good, in fact, that they compose a large part of the few "exports" sent abroad.

Not only does the range sheep find favor as grass-mutton and "feeders," but great quantities of ewes are sent to raisers of spring lambs in Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, New Jersey, New York and other regions where this almost new industry has found favor. So much for sheep-raising on the western and southern ranges where once wool-growing was the entire aim of sheepmen, where sheep were kept until worn out, and permitted to die on the ranges. By this way of disposing of the surplus at fair prices, the flocks are kept young and thrifty, consequently more profitable. The breeding, too, has been in the direction of mutton, and not less to the advantage of wool profits, as can be demonstrated by facts and figures.

On the farms are breeders in the truest and best sense of the term. There are, as said, flocks for wool with more size and better feeding characteristics. There are profitable wool flocks on lands specially suited in cheapness and absolute pasturage facilities. Farmers sometimes sell the lambs of the home flock as "hot-house" lambs, as early spring lambs, as lambs as suits their fancy, until they are one year old. Often the lambs are used as breeders and sold after they are year-olds and later. Others raise lambs to substitute in the home flock the mature sheep that are sold as feeders or breeding mothers of spring lambs, or as fat sheep, direct to the butchers and dealers.

Many thrifty farmers, and men without farms, who love to handle sheep and understand feeding sheep, or who have the natural facilities, or who are willing to prepare for the business, purchase a flock of suitable ewes and breed them for early lambs. The cross used should depend upon knowledge of the market they have and the age at which they wish to sell the lambs. This branch of sheep-husbandry is one of great interest, and accurate information as to management in handling, and especially in selling. The beauties of this business, as with the finishing or feeding of sheep, are that little or no land need be retained in permanent pastures; the feeds of the farm need not be sold in a low, precarious market, but fed on the farm; and all the manure husbanded to insure greater fertility of soil. The farm is freed from all sheep by the time of putting in spring crops. Sheep, by this method, are a steady rotation of the farm and of increased productiveness.

The last question of the young man, as to the possibility of making the \$1,000 run the business, must depend on the part of sheep-husbandry he may decide to adopt. Much, too, might depend on the region in which he may choose to operate. If sheep-feeding, or if he chooses, lamb-raising, I should say he was now in the right place and had ample capital to begin with. By causes unnecessary to discuss here the lands of the older states of the United States are being abandoned to weeds and neglect year by year. I have seen lands in Vermont, Massachusetts, Mississippi and Virginia that, counting the improvements on them, were below the original government price—\$1.25.

However ridiculous this may seem, there is nothing that justifies these low values. A change must come to such lands. Some of them are worn out by bad methods of farming, but not all of them. I feel no hesitation in saying, go east, young man, go east, where lands are cheaper than in western Kansas. How long this depreciation of eastern lands will continue, no one can now tell, but when lands are cheaper in any of these states named than lands are out West, beyond the rain-belt, it is safe to expect the West will emigrate to the East, and by western push and hustle a system of recuperation be inaugurated that shall be effective. Sheep must become a prime factor in reinstating a profitable husbandry in all the impoverished lands, as well as in maintaining the profitable farming of all lands east and west.

R. M. BELL.

LESSONS FROM THE OHIO STATE FAIR.

Having spent a portion of the working hours of last week at the state fair at Columbus, I will record a few of the impressions there received. In general, it may be said that it was one of the best state exhibitions of agricultural and manufactured products that has ever been held in Ohio. In all departments, with a few unimportant exceptions, the entries were ahead of average years. A few classes of live stock and certain groups of agricultural implements were deficient, but in the quantity and excellence of other departments, these were scarcely missed.

Despite the fact that five of the largest manufacturing firms of agricultural implements decided not to patronize any fairs this year, the farm implement display was large and varied, including the latest improvements in labor-saving machinery.

As a whole, the department of live stock was excellent in quantity and equally good in quality. There were some animals that seemed to be kept solely for the purpose of exhibition, and were so pampered and unduly fattened that their real merits were obscured. The number that would come in this class, however, was not a large one, and I believe it only just to say that the stock was in fine condition.

The dairy department was poorly represented. It seems almost incredible that there should be so few entries of dairy products. When we reflect that this is the predominating agricultural interest over a large part of Ohio, it is indeed strange that this department should so lag behind others. It is possible that the state board has not been as liberal in its offers of premiums in this direction as in some others; or it may be that there is no suitable building provided for the proper exhibition and preservation of these products.

Grain, fruit and vegetable products were represented in great profusion, and agricultural and horticultural hall was filled to overflowing. It would be difficult to unduly praise the artistic as well as convenient arrangement of the exhibits in this building. Flowers and ornamental plants found their appropriate place in the center. These were flanked or belted in by a magnificent display of fruit, which in turn was surrounded by garden vegetables, grains, grasses and the like.

A considerable portion of the space in this building was occupied by county exhibits. Never before has there been so much good-natured rivalry and emulation between the different counties of the state. The county exhibits of fruit, limited to one hundred plates each, were especially good, and the merits were so nearly equal that the competition was sharp and the task of impartial judging an extremely difficult one. Lucas county bore off the first prize for the finest display of orchard and vineyard products. The fruit exhibit of this county consisted of thirty-eight plates of apples, nineteen plates of pears, seventeen plates of peaches, fourteen plates of grapes, ten plates of plums and two of quinces. In each case there were as many varieties as plates represented, and all were carefully selected and of good quality. Warren county captured the second prize; this county had a better display of apples than Lucas, but fell behind in some of the other classes of fruit. Ottawa stood third and Lake county fourth.

This display of county exhibits of fruit clearly proved that where an all-around collection is required, the counties bordering on Lake Erie have a decided advantage, some of the more southern counties coming next, while the central counties are decidedly "not in it" when grapes and peaches are taken into account. For example, Delaware county had a fair display of apples, pears and plums, but her exhibit of grapes and peaches was not worth mentioning.

As might be expected at Columbus, which is one of the well-known centers of this manufacturing interest, carriage hall was crowded to the very verge of its capacity. Light vehicles of all kinds, from the sulky and English dog-cart to the family coach, were present in profusion, and received a full share of attention.

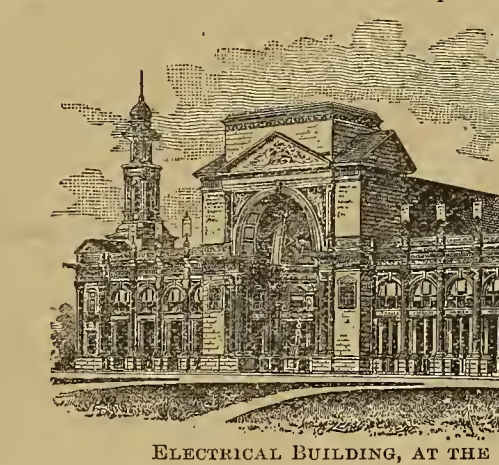
The women's department was filled with an unusually attractive exhibit of household furnishings, textile fabrics and the

like, the special merits of which cannot be even commented on here.

A new and apparently commendable feature of the state fair was the observance of what is termed political days. The great awakening of the people to questions of economic and social science could scarcely fail to make these days appreciated by many who came to learn, rather than to be amused.

On the second day the Prohibitionists had their say, and improved the opportunity of presenting their claims to public recognition and support. The principal speaker was Mr. J. J. Ashenhurst, candidate for governor. Among other things, he said that it was fitting that the party he represented should open the political features of the fair. This new departure needed to be started right, and the Prohibition party was the right party. Prejudice alone stood in the way of its more rapid progress. The condition of the masses was far from satisfactory, and this was manifested by a general spirit of unrest among the people. The aggregation of wealth into the hands of the few was the surest evidence of something wrong. The old parties were at a standstill, and were doing nothing to relieve the condition of the people. They have ignored what should be the first concern of good government, in that they have not controlled the liquor power. The evils of the traffic in liquor were steadily growing worse. As a Prohibitionist, the speaker hailed the advent of the People's party, but did not approve of its plan of controlling the rum power. The ultimate success of prohibition was secured if the people trust God and do right.

In point of numbers and enthusiasm, Democratic day was a much greater success than the previous demonstration by the Prohibitionists. Governor Campbell



ELECTRICAL BUILDING, AT THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

and Congressman Outhwaite addressed those who desired to listen, and the number was a large one, considering the counter attractions. Among the statements made by these speakers were the following: The Democratic party is in favor of raising revenue sufficient to support an economical administration of the government, making the burden of taxation as light as possible. The Republican party was charged with taxing the people heavily for the benefit of corporations and large private enterprises. The McKinley bill made taxes higher than ever, and encouraged the formation of monopolies and trusts. The increase of prosperity during the period of low tariff, from 1850 to 1860, was greater than during any ten years of high, protective tariff.

Governor Campbell said that his farming had been principally devoted to paying taxes and trying to keep down interest on mortgages. This year the farmer was blessed with good crops and fairly good prices. The good prices will probably continue, on account of the necessities of foreign markets, occasioned by general crop failures in Europe. It was wise policy to treat these foreign markets well and to encourage commercial relations with them. Manufacturers in this country should not be permitted to extort exorbitant prices from our own people. We ought to see the United States flag float over a people who can buy goods cheaper at home than elsewhere. As it is, products of some of our manufactures cost the farmers of our own country more than they cost the farmers of Canada and South America.

The Republican standard-bearer, as candidate for governor, was not present, but Senator Sherman made a lengthy address on Thursday, the "big day" of the fair. His speech was confined mainly to a discussion of the comparative merits and demerits of the McKinley and Mills

tariff bills; or, rather, the merits of the former and the demerits of the latter. The address was a comprehensive statement of the history of tariff legislation in this country, and was wholly devoid of what might be termed partisanship. Although it was plain to be seen that there was a difference of opinion among the thoughtful farmers present, the address of Senator Sherman was given a respectful hearing. As one of the greatest public characters of Ohio, a man whose integrity and ability none can question, it was not strange that thousands were interested in his address.

Friday, the last day of the fair, was People's day, and the Hon. John Seitz told a good-sized audience why he was a believer in and an advocate of this new party, and why he ought to be the next governor of Ohio.

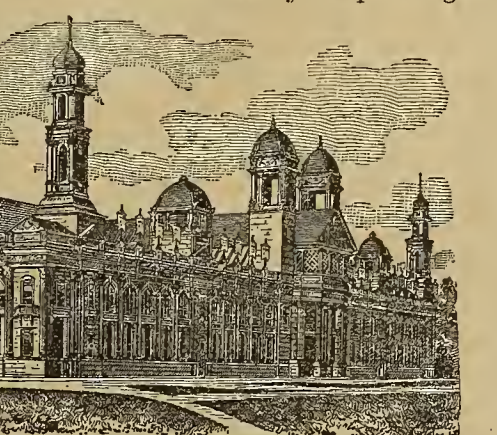
All in all, this feature of the state fair was a signal success. The people of this country appreciate the blood-bought privilege of free discussion. This freedom of speech is, after all, the great conservator of truth and justice. It is a matter of rejoicing that the speeches made on the different days were courteous in tone and did not descend to personalities. Principles and issues were presented with fairness, and as far as politics were admitted to the state fair, it was a "campaign of education."

As a whole, the state fair of 1891 was a grand success, and it is doubtful if any observing, thinking person attended without being amply repaid for time and trouble.

WILLIAM B. LAZENBY.

POISONOUS CANNED GOODS.

A late number of FARM AND FIRESIDE devotes three columns to a chemical investigation of fifteen articles of canned food in common use by the public gen-



ELECTRICAL BUILDING, AT THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

erally, and the city population especially. Twenty-three samples were analyzed, as follows: Canned pumpkin, four; tomatoes, peas, blackberries, salmon and pineapple, two each; Hubbard squash, mushroom, blueberries, pears, cherries, baked sweet potatoes, string beans, peaches and condensed milk, one each. The analyses were conducted by Prof. H. A. Weber, of the Ohio State University, and the report is elaborate and full. No pains were taken to procure old samples, but the samples were purchased in open market, at random. It was found that twenty-two of the twenty-three samples analyzed were more or less contaminated with salts of tin. The single exception was condensed milk of the Gail Borden brand. The samples analyzed came from several of the states of the Union and three from other countries, as follows: One came from New Brunswick, two from France, six from Maryland, four each from Ohio and New York, one from each of the states of Michigan, California, Virginia, Tennessee, Oregon and Washington.

Consequently, the result of the analyses may be said to apply impartially to the great bulk of canned goods on the general market.

Dioxide of tin was found in every sample except the condensed milk, in the proportion of from three tenths of a grain to four and two tenths grains to the pound of fruit or other contents; and every can, except the milk-can, was more or less eroded on the inner surface. "In most cases," says the report, "the amount of tin salts present was so large that there can be no doubt of danger to health from the consumption of the food; especially if several kinds are consumed at the same meal."

When we consider the vast amount of canned goods annually consumed, the menace to the public health is appalling. Who of us cannot recall one or more cases

of sudden sickness that have passed under our observation, of persons who had been eating canned goods of some kind? Not long since a friend of the writer's ate rather heartily of canned beef, and soon became very sick, and was only relieved after vomiting very copiously. An examination of the can and the remaining meat left no doubt as to the cause of the sickness. Still more recently a can of salmon was opened in our own household, but the taste was so decidedly bitter that none of us cared to test the quantity of poison it contained by eating it. The balance of the lot was promptly returned to the grocer, together with that we had opened. It was evidently part of an old lot of goods.

Yet even newly put up canned goods may be contaminated to a dangerous extent from the action of the acids upon the tin and the solder of the can—especially to the youthful palate. We cannot tell, usually, to what extent this chemical action has gone; and surely, health and life are too valuable to try to find out by eating dangerous food.

In their fresh state, nothing is more wholesome and palatable to the human stomach than fruits and vegetables; but the alarming frequency of poisoning from eating canned goods must sooner or later demand something better than tin cans to contain these viands. No harm is ever known to come of using glass jars where ordinary care is used to avoid small fragments of splintered glass in the vessels. Glass is more expensive in the outset than tin, and the loss from breakage would be somewhat greater; but when we consider that the jars can be saved and returned to the packers and used any number of times, it may be proved to be the cheaper material. Even should it not be, in a monetary sense, it is far more economical from a hygienic standpoint.

But a better material than glass will ultimately be used for all canning and most of the culinary purposes. I refer to aluminum. Its great strength, lightness and freedom from erosion render it the "coming metal" for these and many other purposes. Until cheaper methods of producing it are discovered, however, we had better use glass and earthenware jars for putting up meat, fruits and vegetables, and abandon at once and forever the dangerous tins now universally used; for of a truth, "there's death in the fruit-can."

DICK NAYLOR.

THE COMMON COW.

Try feeding and handling the unpresenting common cow for a few weeks or months as you would a two-hundred-dollar thoroughbred, and see whether she does not respond so that you will change your mind about sending her to the butcher. If she does not respond at the butter-tub, she will in meat, and then the food is not lost if the cow is sent to the shambles.—*Hoard's Dairyman.*

ELECTRICAL BUILDING AT THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

The building covers a space of 700 by 350 feet, or more than five and one half acres. Like most of the other buildings, the style of architecture is Italian renaissance. It is 60 feet high and ornamented with designs suggestive of the department. It is one of the handsomest of the grand central group, and will cost \$650,000. There will be four entrances to the building, the main one on the south. It will be built of a material resembling granite in color. A statue of Franklin will rise conspicuously before the south entrance.

Dyspepsia

Distress After Eating—Loss of Sleep.

"Four years ago I suffered with dyspepsia. I tried different kinds of medicine that were recommended for dyspepsia, doctored for it, but got no help until I took Hood's Sarsaparilla. I was so bad, that whatever I ate would distress me. I could not go to bed, but had to walk around or sit up in a chair until twelve or one o'clock. After taking one bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla I could go to bed and sleep. After taking two, I could eat and sleep well. I must say it is the best medicine I have ever taken, and besides being cured of dyspepsia, it benefited me in other ways." MRS. KATE GABEL, 12 Cross Avenue, Cleveland, O.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best blood purifier, the best nerve helper, the best strength builder. Give it a trial.

N. B.—Be sure to get Hood's.

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM MY HOME GARDEN.

BY JOSEPH.

PERMANENT VEGETABLE BEDS.—It is certainly a good suggestion to plant all perennials, such as rhubarb, asparagus, and even currants, gooseberries, etc., in the center of the garden. Most people put them all by themselves in a corner, out of the way; and here is where they miss it. Just as sure as these vegetables and fruits are set on one side, next the fence or boundary of the garden, or in a corner, they will be neglected and soon overrun with weeds; and ten to one, in two or three years the whole plantation will be an eyesore and of little practical value.

How different if you plant these perennial things in the center of the garden! Have rows right through the middle—of course the long way, as all rows in the garden should be—and perhaps not quite reaching to the ends. A row or two of asparagus, one of rhubarb, one or two of strawberries, and one of currants and gooseberries will give you an abundance of these vegetables and fruits. When the garden is plowed you can plow all around them, and they are sure to receive proper tillage, for of course they are cultivated and hoed with the rest of the garden, and their conspicuous place alone will secure them proper attention. Thus located, the rows are kept clean from year to year, manured in the same way and at the same time as the rest of the garden, and the plantation will last and be useful and a comfort for many years.

You can plant any of these things now, strawberries excepted, which I would prefer to set in early spring. For rhubarb, make the ground as rich as possible, dig it deep and pulverize it thoroughly, then set the plants four feet apart each way.

For asparagus, select strong roots, either one or two years old, plant in rows of about five feet apart and plants not less than two feet apart in the rows. If the ground is as rich as a garden ought to be, you will have no difficulty in raising shoots in this way that will "astonish the natives." To have good "grass" the plants need plenty of space, and this country is large. We should not begrudge our asparagus plants the room they require for well doing, for, in fact, a well-established asparagus bed gives us more real good than could be realized from the same space by planting it to almost any other crop.

In regard to gooseberries, I often wonder why this fruit is so little grown. Most people do not even know that the immature fruit makes one of the most delicious sauces that could be imagined. Our American varieties are just as good as any other for this purpose, and they certainly are sure annuals and heavy bearers. Of course, the English varieties are much larger and of much better quality when ripe; and now that we have found a reasonably sure preventive of mildew in spraying with hyposulphite of potassium, there is nothing more in the way of their successful culture. But even if the home grower neglects this fruit, I do not see why the market grower or commercial fruit grower should. There is money in it, and will continue to be for some time. I have ascertained that there is a good demand for the green fruit in our city markets at from five to seven cents a pound. Canning establishments, also, would gladly buy quantities of the fruit for doing up, but they have not even "made a price," because no gooseberries have been offered them. Certainly, the plants are prolific. The fruit is easily stripped off and cleaned by running through a fanning mill. It is also practically imperishable in this immature state, and can be shipped by freight any desired distance.

Horse-radish, one of the perennial vegetables, deserves much better treatment than it receives at the hands of the average home grower. Usually a few roots or crowns are thrown out in the back yard and here allowed to spread and make themselves a nuisance generally. The roots are small and sprangly, and of little account generally. If you want fine, large roots, suitable not only for home use but as a marketable article as well, treat it as an annual, and plant it next to the perennials in the center of the garden.

Use smooth, slim roots—say, six inches long—for sets; open holes with a small iron bar, or better, a spade, drop a set into each and close again the best you know how. If you do this in early spring, you will have fine roots to dig in the fall or spring following. But don't let the stuff get the upper hand of you, for it is hard to kill. In fall or spring dig it up carefully and plant the spot to potatoes, corn, cabbages or the like, and keep all top growth of the horse-radish down for one season. In the meantime plant another patch for next season's use.

IRRIGATING THE GARDEN.—This, to me, is a rather interesting subject. For most things in the garden I can get along first-rate in an ordinary season, even if the supply of moisture from the clouds fails us for a month or so. Proper manure applications and good cultivation will help us over any drouth of ordinary duration. But with such things as celery, and sometimes with cucumbers and melons, a little artificial watering will come most acceptably. In a small way—that is, within the home garden—the suds from the wash-house, and similar liquids, are quite sufficient to help these vines over a dry spell, if applied to the hills by the pailful.

A good plan is given me by W. H. Todd, of Vermillion, Ohio. He writes: "Our method of conveying water directly to the roots is to plant a common three-inch tile upright in the center of each hill, with the lower part four to six inches in the ground, the outside open and clear from end to end. Water poured in at the top gradually passes out at the bottom and saturates the soil in all directions without soaking or crusting the surface. A handful or two of fine dirt thrown into the tile will stop the water from running out too fast. We fill the tile with a dipper. In dry time we apply water three times a week, or oftener. Night is the best time to apply it. This plan enables us to use wash-tub suds or liquid stable manure in moderate quantities. This method is working well in every way."

About irrigation on a larger scale, for celery, etc., I will have something to say in next issue.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

HINTS FOR VINEYARDISTS.

LOCATION AND EXPOSURE.

The soil should be naturally dry or artificially drained. Grapes will not thrive on low, wet soils, but succeed best on high, dry ground, having a free circulation of air, which helps guard against diseases of the vine, mildew, rot, etc., with enough slope to carry off the surplus water. Good success, however, may be obtained in favorable climates, even on low land, when the soil is dry.

In northern latitudes, in the interior, away from large bodies of fresh water, an eastern or southern exposure is preferable. Near a large river or lake, an exposure facing the water is usually most desirable. The presence of a considerable body of fresh water is especially favorable to successful grape growing.

SOIL.

The best soils are those containing more or less clay, with a mixture of disintegrated rock, rotten shale, small stones, limestone, etc. Gravelly and sandy soils are often admirably adapted to the grape, as is also a sandy loam or alluvial soil when well drained. In short, the grape may be successfully grown in any dry soil of sufficient fertility to produce a good farm crop, if climate and exposure are favorable.

PREPARATION OF SOIL.

The only necessary preparation of the soil is to thoroughly plow and pulverize it to a depth of from 12 to 18 inches. If naturally poor, it should be enriched by a liberal application of thoroughly-rotted stable manure, when it can be had, bone-dust, ashes or other available fertilizers. Of the commercial fertilizers, those containing a large percentage of potash and available phosphates are most desirable.

If sod land, it is well to plow in July or August, previous to planting; but good results are obtained by planting on sod immediately after it is plowed.

CHOICE OF VINES AND VARIETIES.

For general vineyard planting, one-year-old plants from cuttings are usually

preferred by the most experienced vineyardists, though some prefer vines two years old. Good one-year vines of No. 1 grade are large enough. In gardens, or where but few are wanted, two-year vines are generally preferred.

In the selection of varieties, the planter must use his own judgment, based on the success of varieties already growing in his vicinity.

TIME TO ORDER AND PLANT.

Autumn is usually the best time to order vines, as growers then have an unbroken stock of all varieties, and prices are generally lower than in the spring. Delay in ordering often leads to disappointment and failure to get the stock desired. If not wanted for planting until spring, it is better to order in the fall, leaving the vines to be shipped in the spring, or have them shipped in the fall and heel them in as described below, until planting time. In most localities vines may be successfully planted during the latter part of October or in November. At the North, in fall planting, it is best to place a small stake near each vine and hill up the earth over the vine to a height of six or eight inches and one or two feet broad, to protect from freezing and thawing.

In vineyards this work can be expedited by turning two or three furrows from each side toward the row, turning the back furrow onto the vine; over each vine make a hillock six or eight inches high and twenty inches broad, to protect the roots. The same course should be followed after the first season's growth. This surplus earth should be removed from over the vines as soon as the frost is out of the ground in the spring, before the buds begin to swell.

CARE OF VINES WHEN FIRST RECEIVED.

Should the vines have encountered severe cold in transit, and become frosted, the box should at once be placed in a cellar and the frost allowed to withdraw gradually before opening. The important point is for the frost to withdraw gradually without exposure of roots to light or air. If received in fall and not wanted to plant until spring, they should be heeled in. For this purpose select a dry piece of ground, dig a trench 18 to 24 inches deep, the back slightly inclined outwards; open the bundles, spread apart the vines on the inclined side of the trench, tops up, roots down, in layers not over one or two inches thick, alternating a layer of vines and a layer of earth, covering the vines, tops and all. When the whole are heeled in, cover the bed with a thick coat of coarse manure, straw or leaves, and over this it is well to place another covering of boards or brush to insure perfect safety.

PLANTING.

When ready to plant, stake out the ground in rows eight or nine feet apart and six to ten feet in the row. Dig the holes about two feet wide and fifteen inches deep, loosening the earth thoroughly in the bottom, throwing in two or three inches of surface soil. Before the vines are taken to the field the tops should be cut back, so that when planted only two or three buds will be above ground, and the roots shortened to ten or twelve inches. Place twenty-five to fifty vines in a pail of water, taking one vine from the water at a time, so none shall get dry before planting. Spread the roots in the bottom of the hole in every direction, taking care not to have them cross each other. Cover with good, fine surface soil two or three inches deep, pressing it thoroughly with the foot. This firming of the soil is very essential to success, and should be carefully done, after which fill the hole to within two or three inches of the top of the plant. If the tops are short, the hole may remain partly filled in the shape of a basin, to be gradually filled in as growth progresses. This deep planting secures a tier of roots so deep down there is little danger of serious injury by freezing, even if the surface roots are destroyed.

AFTER-CULTURE.

Keep the soil thoroughly cultivated during the summer, allowing no weeds to grow, and hoe frequently about the vines. Do not attempt to grow vegetables, berries or anything else between the rows; or, if you must grow something else, let it be beans or early potatoes. The first fall after planting cut the new growth back, leaving only one spur of four or five buds, after which plow between the rows, turn-

ing the furrows together over the rows, and if at the North, make a hillock over the vines six or eight inches deep and two feet broad, first placing a small stake near each vine so that it may be easily found and uncovered in the spring. By this simple method surface drainage is effected and the roots thoroughly protected during the winter. In the spring, as soon as the frost is out of the ground, remove the earth over the canes, and when the shoots have grown a few inches, rub off all but two, leaving the strongest to form canes for fruiting the following year.

Cultivation the second summer should be the same as the first. As the growth progresses the canes may be trained along the rows on the ground, or with some systems of pruning, it may be desirable to start the trellis the second year. In the fall, after the leaves have fallen, prune the vines as described hereafter, and plow between the rows, covering the canes the same as the first fall.

CONSTRUCTION AND COST OF TRELLIS.

As early as the spring of the third season the trellis should be put up. Posts should be $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 feet long, one half as large as a good fence post, except the end posts, which should be the size of a fence post. The intermediate posts are usually about 24 feet apart. The end posts may be well braced with 3 by 4 scantling or other strong braces, 10 to 12 feet long, resting in a notch under the top wire, the other end under a stake firmly driven into the ground nearly in a line with the row. Another good method of bracing is to attach a piece of No. 8 or 9 galvanized wire to top of end post, and to the other end of this wire fasten a heavy stone and anchor it in the ground three feet deep, opposite and outside the end of the row and three or four feet from the post. The wires may be secured to the end posts by boring a $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch hole through one end post at the proper distance from the ground, and after fastening the wire around the other end post and stretching it along the row, put it through this hole. Stretch it with a small windlass about three inches in diameter, and fasten it by driving into the hole from the outside of the post a hardwood pin and then twisting the wire securely around the pin. The wires should be drawn tight, but each fall these pins may be driven out and the wires left with sufficient slack to admit of contraction during cold weather, and again tightened in the spring. The lower wire should be 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the ground, and where three wires are used, the second 15 to 18 inches above the first, and the third the same distance from the second. If only two wires are used, they should be of No. 9, the lower one $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the ground and the upper one 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the first. With rows 8 feet apart and three wires per row, 500 pounds of No. 12 wire are required per acre, 650 pounds of No. 11; 800 pounds of No. 10, and 900 pounds of No. 9. Annealed iron wire is usually used. This can generally be purchased in quantity at $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound. With rows 8 feet apart and posts 24 feet apart, about 250 posts per acre are required; also 8 pounds of staples to fasten wires to intermediate posts. When the trellis is completed, the canes left the preceding fall for fruiting should be tied to the wires. A second and third tying will be necessary as growth progresses during the summer.

PRUNING AND TRAINING.

There are several good systems of pruning and training, each of which has its merits and advocates. A simple method, and one largely practiced in western New York and Ohio, is known as the renewal system. It consists simply in cutting out nearly all the old wood every year, leaving on strong vines three or four canes of the current year's growth that started nearest above the crown of the vine from spurs or canes which grew the previous year. Cut these canes back to three to four feet in length each, according to the growth of the vine, tying them fan-shape to the wires the following spring. In trimming, also, leave near the crown two or three spurs of two buds each, from which to grow canes for the following year's fruiting. Suckers that started below the crown, or from wood more than one year old, are not the best fruiting canes and should not be used as such.

The second year no fruit ought to remain on the vines. The third year strong vines with good culture ought to produce three

or four pounds each, and the following year a full crop. But vines of weaker growth will not do this. Care must be taken not to allow the vine to overbear, or it may be injured so as to never recover. Three to four tons per acre is a full average crop for the strongest growers, although good vineyards often produce without injury five or six tons per acre. The less the number of clusters this weight can be put into, the more satisfactory will be the money return from the crop. Hence, it is well to thin the fruit, picking off the smallest and poorest clusters.

There is always a demand for strictly fine fruit at good prices.

We do not advise summer pruning further than pinching off or rubbing out weak and useless laterals and shoots. Leaves are the laboratories of the growing vine, in which is perfected the food which produces the growth of both wood and fruit. Severe summer pruning, removing a large amount of foliage, weakens the vine, reduces the size of the fruit, retards its ripening and checks the growth of the root. Where more than one shoot starts from a bud it is well to rub off the weaker one before it is more than two to six inches long. When particularly fine clusters are desired, the ends of the canes may be pinched off and stopped when growth has progressed to four or five leaves from the last cluster, and thereafter the ends of all laterals pinched off as soon as one or two leaves are formed. Superfluous suckers that start below the crown of the vine should be broken out before much growth has taken place.

GARDEN OR AMATEUR PLANTING.

What we have said in reference to vineyard planting and cultivation is equally applicable to garden cultivation, except the pruning and training may take any form which suits the fancy or necessity of the planter. Vines will do well trained to stakes, on walls, trees, sides of buildings or arbors, but care should always be taken to prune thoroughly each year so as to preserve an equilibrium between root and top, or they will overbear. In other words, no more bearing canes should be left than the roots can sustain with a vigorous growth of new shoots.—*From Catalogue of T. S. Hubbard Co.*

AS GOOD AS "DUCHESS."

As reported in the *American Garden*, I see that Mr. Barry said: "We would like to know which of the Russians, other than the Duchess (Oldenburgh), have proved desirable." Well, of the same season, or a little later, Zolatoreff and Titus are both as good as Oldenburgh for cooking, as large, handsome and apparently as productive, and decidedly better in dessert quality. For prolonging the season, Autumn Streaked is as large, handsome and far better in quality than Oldenburgh, and not lacking in productiveness. Still later in season are Golden White, Prolific Sweeting, Switzer and Longfield—all late fall or early winter sorts with me—handsome, salable and thrifty and productive in tree. Golden White (known best as White Russet) is a very choice apple, and is already becoming popular as a market fruit in Montreal. Antonovka is still later—a well-shaped fruit from a productive tree—and a good quality for nearly every use. "Stone Antonovka" is reported to me by Mr. John Craig, of the Ottawa (Can.) Experimental Farm, as an all-winter form of this apple, which I have as an early winter sort. These are but a few of many Russian apples pretty well known.—*T. H. Hoskins, in Orchard and Garden.*

SHIPPING GRAPES.

When shipped from distant points the best packages for grapes are cases containing eighteen three-pound boxes and covered baskets holding ten or twelve pounds. The boxes should be well filled and weigh full three pounds. All packages should be filled so full that the cover will draw down tightly on the contents, holding them firmly in place, but not so as to bruise the fruit. Near-by shippers also

largely use the covered baskets, and they are generally considered to be the most desirable package. Many shippers to not far distant points use flat, wooden boxes, with hinged cover, measuring about 21 inches long, 12 inches wide and 5 inches deep, and holding 25 to 30 pounds. These boxes have to be returned to the seller, and many buyers object to them for that reason.—*Orchard and Garden.*

PISTILLATE VARIETIES VS. BI-SEXUAL KINDS.

Many amateur berry growers are very desirous of planting strawberries with perfect or bi-sexual flowers, because they are liable to get their plants mixed when they have two kinds in one bed, so that when they come to set out a second bed from the first planting they are apt to find that they cannot distinguish one kind from another. It certainly does simplify matters to plant only one kind, but it should be remembered in this connection that the varieties that produce both fruit and pollen are not so prolific as the best kinds that produce only fruit and are relieved from the necessity of forming pollen; that is, providing the latter are furnished with the proper pollen from bi-sexual kinds.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Transplanting Grape-vines.—L. C. T., Filley, Neb., writes: "Can grape-vines four and five years old be transplanted? If so, when is the best time?"

REPLY:—Yes, they may be transplanted successfully, but are not so good as strong two-year-old vines. The best time is early in the spring.

Planting Gooseberry Seed.—M. H., Caldwell, Kan., writes: "I would like to know when to plant gooseberry seed, in the spring or fall, and about what depth?"

REPLY:—Pack in sand and store in a shady location outside. Sow early in spring. If kept moist in a cellar they are apt to start during winter, and if kept dry they will not germinate as surely as if packed in sand.

Pruning Fruit-trees—Grafting Plum-trees.—M. M. T., Kewaunee, Wis. 1. The best time to prune fruit-trees is in the latter part of the winter, when the frost is out of the wood, and before the buds commence to swell. And yet I sometimes prune in November, and with good results. 2. Plum-trees may be grafted similar to apples, only they should be worked earlier in the spring—as early as possible. The scions should be cut in the fall and carefully wintered over—buried in the ground or in a cold cellar. Thus, to do away with any injury in wintering, the work is generally successful if done early.

Sawdust as Manure and Mulch.—M. P., Minn. Sawdust is of but little value as manure, and should never be used as such until it is well rotted. It may, however, be used as a mulch on raspberries, blackberries, currants and gooseberries in your location to advantage, if it can be obtained at little expense. Hardwood sawdust is best. The sawdust should be applied about two inches deep, which is thick enough to kill out weeds and to keep the soil moist. A good mulch, to successfully carry small fruits through the drouths to which they are liable in Minnesota, is one of the first factors of successful small fruit cultivation there; and by its use, providing good judgment is used in the other details, these crops can be almost surely grown each year. Any material may be used for mulch that will protect the soil from the sun. Green clover is a very valuable mulch, since it lies close, and by its decay becomes a very valuable manure. Old straw, swale hay and bagasse from sorghum works are all good and are used extensively. I once had charge of several acres of raspberries, blackberries, currants, quinces and gooseberries which were mulched with refuse straw-hat trimmings and mats from a hat factory near by.

Fruit Culture.—L. C. H., Spring Valley, Ohio, writes: "I am a farmer boy, twenty years old, and am thinking of commencing fruit culture as a business. Do you think it will pay in this part of Ohio? I am situated in Greene county, fifty miles north of Cincinnati. The soil is rich sandy loam, gravel at the depth of ten feet. We are about 600 feet above the level of the sea and 100 feet above the level of the Little Miami river. There is no one in Greene county who grows fruit for the market. I would grow apples, peaches, pears and chestnuts, mainly. 2. Would also like you to tell me where the Ohio Horticultural Society holds meetings, or the address of the party of whom I could get copies of their reports."

REPLY:—1. I think you can raise fruits suc-

cessfully and at a profit at your home. Your location is all right, and judging from your letter, I should say you are. Do not start in on a very big scale until you have had a little experience and feel sure of your position, for there are many things that will require study and care. Commence to ask questions of the nearest grower of fruits for market you can find, even if you have to go out of the county. If you have no experience whatever in the business, it would be a good plan for you to delay starting for one season and spend a year with some one of the large Ohio fruit raisers, even if you have to work for little money. You must learn how to raise the best quality of fruit, for raising inferior stuff does not pay. So if you decide to work a year, be careful to select a man to work for who is careful and who raises good fruit and markets it successfully. 2. For Ohio Horticultural Report address the secretary, W. W. Farnsworth, Waterville, Lucas county. These reports will well repay careful study.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM NEBRASKA.—Franklin county is one of the best counties in the state. Land is worth from \$5 to \$10 per acre. Those who wish to get a home of their own could not do better than to come to Nebraska while land is cheap.

Neponee, Neb.

E. L.

FROM MISSOURI.—Charlton county is in the Missouri river valley at the mouth of the Grand river. We raise fine crops of corn, wheat, oats and hay. We ship many car-loads of fat cattle, hogs, horses and mules to eastern markets. The industrious, energetic and intelligent farmer who loses no time loitering on the street corners of our towns or in the saloons, has plenty around him on his farm and a bank account to his credit. J. C. B.

Brunswick, Mo.

FROM TEXAS.—I have been in ten states, and this (Parker county, Texas) is the best place for a poor man. He can grow all kinds of stuff. Almost all kinds of fruits and berries do well, and we have a good market for them right here at our country town. All kinds of grain, castor-beans, jute, hemp, sorghum and nearly everything else except tobacco grows here and does well. The only castor-bean oil-mill this side of St. Louis is here. We also have a canning factory. Our winters are mild and summers cool.

Lambert, Texas.

FROM NEBRASKA.—We live on the watershed between the Elkhorn and Niobrara rivers. The soil is a dark, sandy loam. Corn is the main crop, but this year small grain is good. The rye was damaged quite badly in some localities by hail early in the summer, but wheat, oats and barley are good. Our corn promises a big yield this fall, but it is somewhat later than usual. Fall wheat bids fair to be a successful crop. Our country is comparatively new, having only been settled about eight years. We think it will prove to be a valuable country on account of its productive soil.

Atkinson, Neb.

T. M. E.

TO BUTTER MAKERS.

TO THE EDITOR:

I wish to call the attention of the readers of *FARM AND FIRESIDE* to an artificial color which is all that can be desired. I have reference to the Improved Butter Color, manufactured by Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt.

It is superior to all other colors I have tried, in point of strength, and this of course makes it the most economical. No one can detect its use, and it is perfectly harmless and without taste or odor. Even the old cow herself would think it was June if she saw butter where this color has been used.

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Our Fireside.

A GREAT MAN.

That man is great, and he alone,
Who serves a greatness not his own,
For neither praise nor pelf;
Content to know and be unknown,
Whole in himself.

Strong is that man, he only strong,
To whose well-ordered will belong,
For service and delight,
All powers that in face of wrong
Establish right.

And free is he, and only he,
Who, from his tyrant passions free,
By fortune undismayed,
Has power upon himself to be
By himself obeyed.

If such a man there be, where'er
Beneath the sun and moon he fare,
He cannot fare amiss;
Great Nature hath him in her care,
Her cause is his.

—Owen Meredith.

THE LITTLE WIFE AT HOME.

The dear little wife at home, John,
With ever so much to do,
Stitches to set and babies to pet,
And so many thoughts of you;
The beautiful household fairy,
Filling your house with light,
Whatever you meet to-day, John,
Go cheerily home to-night.

For though you are worn and weary,
You needn't be cross or curt;
There are words like darts to gentle hearts,
There are looks that wound and hurt;
With the key in the latch at home, John,
Drop the trouble out of sight;
To the little wife who is waiting,
Go cheerily home to-night.

HER DIAMONDS.

You

KNOW, dear, we are not
the least bit in love
with each other,"
Lucy Bassett said,
reaching up to pull my
whiskers, and laying a
coaxing cheek against my shoulder. "It would
be very foolish for you and I to fall in love
with each other, and we just won't—there!"

Lucy was a whole garden of roses—dew,
color, fragrance and all. When she looked at
you, you felt as if your whole heart was ex-
haling at your eyes; and when she smiled
upon you, it did not matter what sort of thun-
der and lightning there was in any other part
of the globe, it was distilled sunshine where
you were. I don't know if Lucy was pretty,
but she had a lot of pretty characteristics. She
was all quality, like a fine, golden wine that is
better the longer you keep it, and that gets a
new flavor every time you taste it—a more
molten sparkle every time it drips over the
beaker's rim.

The beauty of her eyes was in their expres-
sion; of her hair in its brightness. Her face
was a blossom; her hands, birds; and if the
white wings of her fingers fluttered across
your horizon, you might as well be blind for all
seeing anything else but her. In short, you see
I was in love with Lucy, if Lucy was not in love
with me; and it is my private opinion that we
were very much in love with each other, in
spite of Mrs. Anstruther's parting admonition
that we were on no account to commit so
absurd a blunder.

Lucy and I were both orphans. Lucy was
own niece to Mrs. Anstruther, whom she called
Aunt Doria, and whose prospective heiress she
was supposed to be, provided, always, that she
married to please her.

I was a nephew to Mrs. Anstruther's hus-
band, who was dead, and heir to nothing
but my wits—a rather slender property, Lucy
derisively assured me, and scarcely likely to
yield an income equal to the probable demand
of a pair so extravagantly inclined as we were.

"So you see it would never, never do," Lucy
would say, with a roguish pout of her rosy lips
at me, "and Aunt Doria wouldn't be one bit
afraid so far as I am concerned."

Aunt Doria had been absent from the Grove
some three weeks, now, summoned away by
the illness of a friend, just as I had gotten my-
self comfortably bestowed in her best chamber
with a dislocated shoulder, which injury had
been received in a struggle with a refractory
steed which had tried his best to run away
with Miss Lucy.

Mrs. Anstruther was warrauted in consider-
ing the incident as dangerously romantic in
its tendencies, and she left us together at the
Grove with manifest reluctance. She had,
however, great confidence in Lucy, and gave
her very distinctly to understand, in my pres-
ence, that if we two made such ninnies of our-
selves as to turn lovers while she was gone, we
should never see the color of her money,
either of us.

Well, for some days I, for one, felt like little
else but groaning; and then gradually I be-
came conscious of a touch that swallowed
pain, of a hovering face that might have been
an angel's, of a voice deliciously attuned, that
chorused all sorts of soothing and coaxing
speeches, with a "dear." I was petted to an
extent that I don't mind confessing here, and
it was the means of my pretending to be sick
a trifle longer than was really necessary; but
I don't think many would have blamed me
under the circumstances. The consequence
was I was only fairly established down-stairs

again when Mrs. Anstruther returned. She
eyed Lucy and me very sharply, and we two
bore the inspection with great demureness till,
chancing to encounter glances, a spark from
Lucy's merriment lit on me, and we went off
into explosions of laughter that nearly took
Mrs. Anstruther off her feet with amazement.
However, she laughed, too, presently, and in
the same breath announced that company was
coming to the Grove the following week.

"Shall I go, Mrs. Anstruther?" I asked. "I
am sufficiently recovered, I think."

"Certainly not," she answered, very sbarply.
"Whatever mischief is done can't be made
any worse by your staying, and it might be as
well, beside, for Lucy to have an opportunity
for comparing you with other people. If I am
not mistaken, she will know a gentleman
when she sees one."

"If I don't, aunt, it will be the fault of Felix,
here," spoke Lucy, coming swiftly beside me
and pinching my arm.

"Ta-ta, Miss Impertinence! Mr. Felix is
very well, but wait till next week."

"I presume I shall, and considerably longer,"
Lucy answered, saucily.

"Miss Lucy Bassett, I should like to know
what this means?" demanded Mrs. An-
struther, loftily.

"Nothing very serious, does it, Felix?"
laughed Lucy. "We are too well warned,
aunt, dear."

"I don't know about that," said Mrs. An-
struther, sailing from the room in a very
evident passion, and sending for me to her
apartment half an hour after.

I submitted to the curious tirade that fol-
lowed with mingled irritation and good
humor, and offered at least six times in the
course of it to leave the Grove that very day.
But Mrs. Anstruther would not hear to such a
proceeding.

Lucy was waiting on the landing outside
when I left her aunt, and as she stood on tip-
toe to whisper in my ear: "You don't mind,
do you, dear?" and left the warm print of her
rosy lips on my cheek, I can assure you I did
not mind so much as I might.

When I left Mrs. Anstruther I had fully in-
tended to quit the Grove, whether or no, the
following day; but that half-dozen words with
Lucy left me undecided again. I was an idiot
for staying, first, because I was deliberately
sacrificing a very pretty prospect in life by not
going; and second, because I might have
known beforehand what sort of an experience
the next week's would be likely to be. But men
are idiots when a pretty girl is concerned, and
I was a great deal more bewildered with Lucy
than I owed to myself. I spoiled my own
mess, too, with my conceit. I am ready to
own that men are more conceited than
women, but then they have so much more to
make them so. Why, only think of one
woman like Lucy Bassett making "sweet eyes"
at you!

I am willing to own at this day that I had
not at that time one misgiving as to how it
was likely to turn with Lucy and me if I
stayed. My going or staying was a mere ques-
tion of self-abnegation. Should I try and win
the girl who loved me, in the face of Mrs. An-
struther's threats of poverty and starvation,
or should I generously leave her to forget me
as she could, and bestow her matchlessness
upon some prince of the crew that were
coming to the Grove that week? I was not
generous. I did not at all relish being for-
gotten, and I stayed.

Mrs. Anstruther's company came in due
time—a household of them, too—gentlemen
and ladies; some married, some single; the
young ladies, pretty creatures enough, and the
gentlemen good talkers and well dressed.

I understood long before the passage of the
first day what Mrs. Anstruther meant by her
talk about gentlemen. She meant men who
owed their right to be ranked above the
"plebs" to their tailor. My best coat was of
last year's cut, and a trifle seedy, having done
alternately as every-day gear and Sunday
togger. My boots were neither patent
leather nor Morocco, and my unmentionables,
though as well kept as could possibly be ex-
pected under the circumstances, had quite lost
that beautiful shapeliness of limb which char-
acterized those of Mrs. Anstruther's guests.

In vain I kept repeating to myself: "A
man's a man for a' that," and "Dress doesn't
make the man." I was humiliatingly sure
that I wasn't half a man because of my seedy
garb.

Mrs. Anstruther watched me and felt re-
joiced at my discomfiture, what she could see
of it. Out of sheer revenge I devoted myself
to Lucy. Secure in Lucy's fondness for me, I
took airs upon myself, and for every sneer I
imagined flung at my clothes I managed to
make Lucy snub the sneerer.

I don't know how it was; I think I had
taken a little too much wine that evening,
and there was a Count Leopold Keirst who was
especially affected by Mrs. Anstruther for
Lucy, and who was nothing loth himself. The
man was the merest dandy, empty-headed as a
rattle-box, positively nothing but clothes and
title; but because I hated him for daring to
aspire to Lucy, I insisted upon her openly in-
sulting him by dancing with me when she had
promised him, and they had even got their
places upon the floor. I suppose I was mad
with jealousy, envy and wine, and I saw Mrs.
Anstruther shaking her head at Lucy from a
corner. I insisted that Lucy should dance
with me instead of the count, and she refused,
of course.

Half an hour afterward, carpet-bag in hand,
I had left the house, and by morning was
miles on my journey cityward. I had recov-
ered my senses by that time, and was suffi-
ciently conscious what an idiot I had made of
myself. Whatever conceit was left in me
then was taken out before the day was done.

As I got off the cars at noon a strange man
put his hand on my shoulder. I was arrested
for stealing Mrs. Anstruther's diamonds. She
had telegraphed to have it done, and Lucy
had not hindered her.

It was odd, but I never felt myself more a
man than at that moment. The touch of that
terrible finger of disgrace was like the prick
of the surgeon's lancet to a swooning con-
sciousness. By noon the next day Mrs. An-
struther herself came to the city to me in my
prison cell. The woman was positively wild
about her diamonds.

"Oh, give them back to me, Felix, and I
won't prosecute the thing. I've got money
enough to hush the matter, and I will; and
I'll set you up in business, besides. Only give
me back my diamonds, Felix. How could you
have the heart to touch them? Why, man,
they've been in the family more than two
hundred years."

Mrs. Anstruther wrung her hands wildly as
she pleaded, and clung to me when I would
have risen from my chair.

"Madam, you will never see your diamonds
more if the return of them depends on me,"
said I.

"You ungrateful boy!" cried Mrs. An-
struther.

I smiled.

"After all I have done for you?"

"I am aware that I owe Mrs. Anstruther one
debt which it is impossible for me ever to
repay."

"Do you mean Lucy, sir? Give me back my
diamonds and you shall have even her."

"Madam values her diamonds at a curious
price."

"Do you mean to keep them in the face of
everything? What good will they ever do
you now?"

"Madam forgets that there is a limit to
duration vile, even for stealing diamonds.
Many a man has toiled longer and harder for
a fortune than that."

Mrs. Anstruther thought I was in earnest.
Her face whitened, and she trembled with
agitation.

"Well, then, Felix," she said, "if you are so
hard as that, I must leave you to the law. I
should have liked to save the diamonds and
avoid the disgrace to the family. But you will
not permit me."

"Mrs. Anstruther," said I, putting a detain-
ing hand on her arm as she was going, "do
you honestly believe I know anything about
your diamonds?"

She stopped and looked at me in odd per-
plexity.

"Who else could?"

"When did you first miss them, Mrs. An-
struther?"

"In the morning after you went away. I
always look at them before I sleep. I did so
that night."

"And you did not retire, of course, till after
your guests. Did they stop dancing any before
twelve?"

"I don't know about that, but it was after
two o'clock before I got to bed. I remember
noticing it was so late as that before I sent
Lucy away. I had her in my room, and talked
to her pretty plainly about you."

"Pray, Mrs. Anstruther, what time is the
night express due at the Grove?"

"Oh, at one o'clock, you know—"

She came to a sudden stop; her face turned
red and white in a minute.

"What a horrible wretch I am!" she cried,
covering her face with her hands, and then
holding them both out to me. "Why, you
must have been miles and miles away before I
told Lucy good-night. Felix, I am ashamed of
myself. Can you ever forgive me?"

"It is of no consequence, madam," I said,
frigidly.

"Indeed it is. But I will make it up to you;
you shall see that I will, Felix."

"I was duly restored to an honorable air
again, and went back to the Grove with Mrs.
Anstruther on the first train thereafter. But I
had not forgotten her.

We had arranged that a detective should go
down to the Grove on the same train with us,
though not in company, to avoid suspicion.

Mrs. Anstruther looked grave and anxious
during all that homeward ride. She was
thinking of her diamonds, and I almost be-
lieve she would have been willing that the
family should have been disgraced by my
stealing them for the sake of finding them
again.

We reached the Grove at dark, and when the
one o'clock express came from the opposite
direction the detective made his appearance,
pretending to be a new guest.

Lucy met me like a woman. I had not asked
Mrs. Anstruther about her, and whatever her
lovely, speaking face might have said to me,
if I had given it opportunity to express itself,
it said nothing now but what my own did, and
that was as cold and stern as I could make it.

We were nearly all at breakfast when Mrs.
Anstruther's new guest came down and was
introduced to us as Mr. Clemens.

By the merest chance in the world my eyes
were on Count Leopold Keirst, as his fell for
the first time on Mr. Clemens. An instan-
taneous change flashed over his countenance,

as swift, momentary pallor that left his very lips
white. He sat near the door, and when I again
looked in his direction, after Mr. Clemens had
taken his seat, he had vanished.

Making a scarcely audible excuse to Mrs.
Anstruther, I quitted the room also and passed
noiselessly up the carpeted stairway that led
to the count's apartment. But before I
reached it, I heard the door open, and drawing
back a step, heard him pass along to the oppo-
site extremity of the hall, where a glass door
opened upon the garden. As I caught the
sound of his retreating footsteps, I followed
and looked through the blind after him.

But was that the Count Leopold? Scarcely,
though there was something about him oddly
like the count; and then in a moment I knew
him again, in spite of the disguise he had so
quickly donned. He crossed the garden, leaped
the fence and struck at a good round pace into
a path which led toward the depot.

"Eureka!" I cried, audibly, and fleeing to
the breakfast parlor again, asked Mr. Clemens,
with small ceremony, if I could have a word
with him in the hall.

His face flashed eagerness while I told my
story, and before the last words were out of
my mouth he had snatched one hat from the
hall-rack for himself and crammed another
on my head, and was dragging me toward the
depot.

There was a train due at half past nine, and
we had hardly time to reach it. But we did
reach it, Mr. Clemens entering at one door of
the depot while I sauntered idly through the
other. Our man was at that instant at the
ticket-office. He wheeled as Clemens put his
hand on him, and flashed out a revolver. With
a wrench that left his arm helpless, Clemens
twisted the weapon from him, and then, in a
very brief time, he had the handcuffs on him.

Clemens knew him the instant he fairly saw
him. The Count Leopold Keirst was an old
offender, no more a count than Clemens him-
self, whom he had recognized first, and profit-
ing by that recognition, would have neatly
made his escape but for the chance which set
me on his track.

We found Mrs. Anstruther's diamonds on
him, unset and sewed fast in a belt he had
buckled around him. Mrs. Anstruther, when
she heard the story and beheld its proof in the
return of her glittering treasures, rewarded
me for my share in her good fortune with a
single sentence:

"No one here knew of my absurd suspicion
of you, Felix—not even Lucy."

Lucy's sweet face was very pale when she
met my flashing glance, but she did not quit
her aunt's side.

"Can Lucy forgive me for what has been
amiss in me toward her?" I asked, sadly.
"Let us at least be friends, dear."

"She flushed at the words, but did not lift
her eyes.

"Ta-ta," said Mrs. Anstruther; "gracious in-
deed! I shall divide my money between you,
and any day he likes. You'll be glad enough
to make up with him, miss."

Whereat Lucy began to cry and slipped out
of the room before her aunt could stop her.
She hid herself in her chamber the best part
of the day; but I was on the watch, and I
knew when she at last crept forth in the dusk
of the evening and stole into the music-room.
My sweet girl looked a little frightened when
I followed her, but she did not refuse to hide
her fears on my shoulder; and so, without
words, we knew that we were all in all to each
other once more.

A FRAUDULENT CLAIM.

The world owes no man a living. He who
gets a living from the world without giving
something in return for it is a cheat and a
fraud, and is not a whit better than the three-
card-mouste man. The theory that the world
owes a man a living, if pursued to its legiti-
mate results, leads to the penitentiary. Thus
its advocates, in one way, prove the correct-
ness of their theory, and the world furnishes
them a living inside a prison wall, if they do
not sooner meet the hangman, and shall not
escape justice through the inefficiency of the
law.

In this world all must work. Here below
work is the common heritage of man. All
who fill their destiny manfully and honor-
ably, labor. The penitentiaries are full of
people who, starting out in life, believed the
world owed them a living. Following that
theory, they have found, too late, that the
path led directly to the gallows or the state
prison.

Mark well the young man who, starting out
in life, asserts that the world owes him a liv-
ing. Upon what principle of justice can he
base his claim? In what manner has the world
become so greatly his debtor? Really he does
not mean that the world is in debt to him.
What it does imply is this: He believes him-

CONSTIPATION

and
all disorders of
the stomach, liver,
and bowels, removed
by using

Ayer's Cathartic Pills

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

self smart enough to defraud the world of a living, and he acts upon that theory. He despises his slow-going but honest schoolmate or associate of earlier years, who frankly admits that the world owes him nothing, but who in all probability will cheerfully give to the world far more than he receives from it in return. The apparent smartness of the first leads to ignominy and suffering. The apparent dullness of the other in permitting the world to obtain from him more than it gives in return leads to an honorable life and a place in the esteem of his fellowmen, and it is not improbable that the world at last discovers the debt it owes him, and pays him back with interest compounded. Which will you be, the "smart Aleck" who believes the world owes you a living which you are determined to fraudulently get, and be caught at your tricks, or the other, who honestly admits that the world owes him nothing, but honestly and manfully proclaims his intention to pay for all he receives?

OF INTELLECTUAL WOMEN.

It is often said that study disgusts women with domestic labors. This is an error. If anything diverts us from our daily duties, it is not study, but frivolity. Minds that are incapable of fixing themselves on a serious subject are not the better fitted on that account to keep the household expenses within bounds or to govern their children. Women whose intellectual nurture consists of plays and novels are not likely to air their apartments better than those who read history and philosophy. Frequently the scholarly woman knows how to handle a broom better than the one who knows nothing of science or literature. Whenever an interesting volume prevents one from performing a household duty, the fault does not lie in the legitimate desire for mental cultivation, but in the love of enjoyment, which has its root in selfishness, however elevated be its object. Moreover, while the diligent hands are busied with humble tasks, the mind does not cease to roam. Is it not better that it should move in a lofty sphere, in the domain of letters and science, than be occupied with such wretched subjects as scandals and gossip? Those who have the highest claim on us should be glad to have us do a little independent thinking. We are drawn closer to those who ordinarily occupy our thoughts if we can remove ourselves from them at certain moments. It is one of the privileges especially reserved for women that whatever they do for themselves confers a benefit on others.

That is all very fine, some one may say, but it is not practical. Mothers of families and wives who must occupy themselves with the good of their near ones have something else to do than to isolate themselves and abandon their minds to their chosen studies. When you draw up a scheme, tell us how it is to be carried out. We answer that the most practical thing of all is, not so much to indicate a process as to hold before the mind a lofty ideal to which one can aspire with all the ardor of his soul. Wherever the intellectual impulse exists, it will be found possible to so dispose one's time that, in spite of absorbing occupations, some happy hours will remain free.—*Parisian Paper.*

THAT SIGNATURE OF YOURS.

Why make it so small that it requires unusual care and keen eyesight to read it? Why make it so complicated that no human being but its maker can decipher it? Why sprawl it all over a check or letter-sheet? This writhing of a signature is not a small matter with those whose correspondence reaches thousands of letters daily. We have frequently seen all the force in an office spend half an hour to decipher a signature which should have been written so as to be read at a glance. Some foolishly entertain the idea that an intricate signature is less easily forged, when the truth is that one that is plain and bold is extremely hard to copy. As examples of what a signature should be, study those of George Washington, John Hancock, Hon. Hamilton Fish. If you want to be eccentric, take Horace Greeley's signature for a model, but spare, oh, spare us your ideas of sprawl, complexity, novelty, under the mistaken notion that it insures safety. It robs others of time and patience, and is a nuisance to everyone who handles it, unless thoroughly conversant with your abnormal sign manual. These remarks are prompted by the receipt of a signature measuring five sixteenths of an inch, although it is composed of nine letters, and should occupy not less than one and one half inches, and better if two.—*American Grocer.*

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," is the old saying, and at this season of the year the farmer should bear it in mind. He should take a day or two of vacation, if not a longer time, and he should also allow a similar respite from work to the wife and the children. He should not oblige them to share his pleasures any more than he would want to participate in theirs. If he wants a quiet day in the woods with dog and gun, they may want a day of excitement at some popular summer resort, with a "hop" in the evening. The wife may like a visit to her mother or her aunt, with a day or two of visiting among such of her old friends as are living near there, and a little harmless gossip in the way of news about those who have moved away. The boys may like a day upon their bicycles, or the boys

and girls may prefer a day at the seaside or among the scenery at the mountains, and it is well that they should have it, and enjoy it. Happy are the parents who are young enough in feeling, if not in years, to share in the pleasures of their children. Perhaps farmers, and business men, too, with their many cares, are too apt to forget the days when they were young, and the pleasures which then enticed them, and having grown older, and having "seen the folly" of their youthful amusements, do not remember that the younger generation also want to "see the folly."

But when the sports which they once enjoyed have palled upon them, if they can pretend to participate in the amusements of their children, they can direct and restrain them much better than they could if they, figuratively, if not literally, stood afar off, and saw only with a disapproving eye. Nothing more shows a lack of confidence between the parent and child than to have them say, "Oh! Father" or "Mother," as the case may be, "never wants us to have any fun." They will "have fun," and if not allowed legitimate pleasures, they may think that those which are most objected to must be the most pleasant.

WORK AND OVERWORK.

Overwork is often denounced as a characteristic American folly. Yet, in attacking it, the vast difference between work and overwork should never be forgotten. The first is as much to be desired as the second is to be shunned. Perhaps this point was never made clearer than in the following anecdote which Samuel Smiles tells of Charles Lamb:

When Charles Lamb was released for life from his daily drudgery of desk-work at the India office, he felt himself the happiest of men. "I would not go back to my prison," he said to a friend, "ten years longer for ten thousand pounds." He also wrote in the same ecstatic mood to Bernard Barton: "I have scarce steadiness of head to compose a letter," he said; "I am free! free as air! I will live another fifty years. Would I could sell you some of my leisure! Positively, the best thing a man can do is—nothing; and next to that, perhaps, good works."

Two years—two long and tedious years—passed, and Charles Lamb's feelings had undergone an entire change. He now discovered that official, even humdrum work—"the appointed round, the daily task"—had been good for him, though he knew it not. Time had formerly been his friend; it had now become his enemy. To Bernard Barton he again wrote: "I assure you, no work is worse than overwork; the mind preys on itself—the most unwholesome of food. I have ceased to care for almost anything. Never did the waters of heaven pour down upon a more forlorn head. What I can do, and overdo, is to walk. I am a sanguinary murderer of time. But the oracle is silent."

GOVERNMENT NOTE PAPER.

Anybody who wishes can go into the big Crane & Co's. factory at Dalton, Mass., and see the workmen place the blue silk on the machine that makes the paper for all the United States notes. The silk comes in spools, and is made by Belding, of Northampton. It is sold here in Bangor. There is no more secret about it than there is about the water flowing over the dam above the toll-bridge. The real secret is in the composition of the paper. The silk thread idea is secured by patent, to be sure, but the making of the paper, the compound of the ingredients, is safe in the head of J. Murray Crane, who received the art from his father, who made bonds for Salmon P. Chase, Lincoln's secretary of the treasury, away back in war times. The pure linen pulp is in a big room, looking for all the world like any linen pulp. Then comes J. Murray Crane with a gripsack. He and the "grip" enter the room together, and it is presumed that he locks the door, for the door is locked on the inside and the "grip" does not look able to do it. They are closeted half an hour. When they come out the pulp goes to the paper machine and Mr. Crane and the grip go home. But the pulp is changed by that visit and nobody has been able to penetrate the Crane secret. The company gets about fifty times as much for that paper as for other linen paper made in the same mill.—*Bangor News.*

STRAWBERRIES.

"Why are they called 'straw' berries? Smart men differ on that. Some say it is on account of their hollow, straw-like stems. Others think it is because they have to be covered with straw or similar protecting material in winter. The most classical explanation is that our Anglo-Saxon forefathers used to raise them, and they gave them this name because the berries are generally on the ground, that is, 'strewed' or 'strawed' around."

HIS HAT SAVED HIM.

Let it not be forgotten that the wearing of a high, silk hat was all that saved a man in this city from being sand-bagged into insensibility and robbed of a considerable sum of money a day or two ago. The lesson is plain. Any hatter will take pleasure in pointing it out. If you have plenty of money, wear a high, silk hat. If you have only a little money wear it anyhow as a matter of personal safety.—*Chicago Tribune.*

ALLCOCK'S

POROUS PLASTERS.

The only safe way for purchasers is to insist on having the genuine article, and not allow themselves to be swindled by having plasters said to be "just as good," or "containing superior ingredients," imposed upon them. These are only tricks to sell inferior goods that no more compare with ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS than copper does with gold.

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CHEATING

—IN—

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Before Buying. POUR some water in the sleeve holding the end tight as here shown or anywhere else where there is a seam, and see if it is water tight. There are goods in the market that look very nice, but will leak at every seam. We warrant TOWER'S IMPROVED Fish Brand Slicker to be water tight at every seam and everywhere else; also not to peel or stick, and authorize our dealers to make good any Slicker that fails in either point. There are two ways you can tell the Genuine Improved Fish Brand Slicker. 1st. A Soft Woolen Collar. 2d. This Trade Mark (below.) Watch Out for both these points! Send for Catalogue free. A. J. TOWER, Mfr., Boston, Mass.

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Our Household.

THE ONE WHO BELIEVED.

JOSEPHINE HILL.

There is a time in the lives of all,
Whose hopes are fixed on some distant goal,
Be it wealth or fame, it matters not;
There is a time when the weary cot
Is sought with tears; the world seems dark,
And keenest grief fills our saddened heart.

In that dark hour of grief and pain,
When for the world's favor we looked in vain,
There came a light whose steady ray
Melted our troubles, like snow, away;
And assured and strengthened by its bright
beams,
We journeyed on to fulfill our dreams.

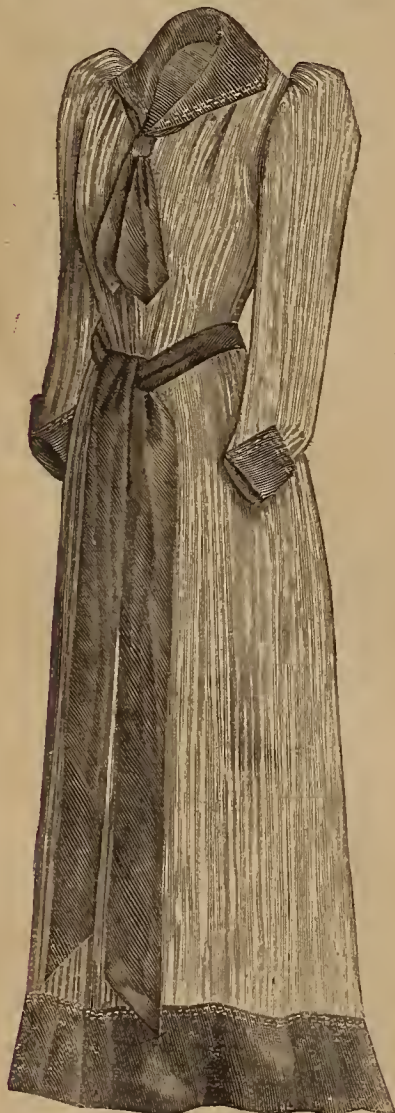
That light was the faith of the loyal one,
Who stood firm and true when all others
were gone;
Who waited not for the world's applause,
But encouraged and aided us in our cause;
Who held out to us two helping hands,
When our feet were fast sinking into Despair's
quicksands.

So in after years when the battle is o'er,
And friends in profusion flock 'round us to
pour
Their honeyed words and great appreciation,
Our thoughts once again will go back to the
hour
When our hearts were heavy and lost was
ambition,
And cherished above all will be the friend
good and true,
Who stood by and murmured, "I believe in
you."

HOME TOPICS.

MENDING.—The weekly mending is robbed of half its terrors if you know just where to find all the pieces needed, and do not have to waste valuable time hunting for them. The most satisfactory way of securing this result is to have a goodly supply of bags. Make one of muslin in which to put all pieces of white goods when you are cutting out garments, another of gingham or calico in which to keep the pieces of your own and the children's cotton dresses and aprons, another of heavy linen or ticking in which to keep pieces of the boys' suits, if you make them, one of dress lining to hold the pieces of wool dresses, and as many others as you may need, only let each bag be different and suggest what kind of pieces are kept in it. Keep these bags in a convenient closet and you will soon wonder how you kept house without them.

For stockings I have used a peach-basket for years. It is lined with red oiled calico and has three pockets around the sides, in which are kept balls of yarn, the



MORNING WRAPPER IN PRINCESSE SHAPE.

gourd danner, etc., and a needle-book for darning-needles.

After the ironing, put away all clothes that need no repairing, and put the others in a basket kept for that purpose, putting

the stockings in the stocking-basket. Then when you are ready to mend, get the bags that are needed, and with your work-basket containing thread, needles, thimble, scissors and button-box, you will be fully equipped for the work. If the mending is done every week, much of it will be but the "stitch in time;" but let nothing tempt you to put clothes away until they are in order for wearing.

It takes patience and long experience to



MANTELET FOR ELDERLY LADIES.

become an adept in the art of patching. A round patch is much more noticeable than a square or rectangular one, as in the former it is impossible to match the threads. Figured, striped or plaid goods should be carefully matched. If a patch is set in, the edges turned and sewed in over and over on the wrong side and then pressed on the wrong side, it cannot be seen at a little distance. In mending the knees of little boys' pants it is well to rip the seams, cut off the front of the leg above the worn place and set in a new piece; then you have only one seam across the front, and if that is matched, stitched on the machine and neatly pressed, it will be hardly discernible, and perhaps will call forth the surprised question, "Why, mamma, when did you make these new pants?" Sleeves of coats or dresses are best mended in the same way. While it is no disgrace to wear patched clothes, yet, as they do not add to the beauty of the garment, it is best to make them just as inconspicuous as possible.

HUSK MATS.—A good mat at the door will save much dirt from being brought into the house, and nothing answers this purpose better than a husk mat. When the corn is being husked have the best and longest husks saved; then some rainy day will be a good time for the boys, or the good man himself, to braid a mat.

Take nine husks and tie the butt ends together with a piece of twine; then divide them equally in three parts for braiding. As each strand is laid over, have three more husks ready to put in, leaving about an inch and a half of the butt ends out. The under side of the braid will be smooth, but the upper side should be as rough as possible. It takes from six to ten yards of braid for a mat, according to the size of mat desired. If the husks are very dry, dip them in water before putting them into the braid. The braid must be damp when you sew it, which must be done with twine and a very long, coarse needle, fastening the ends well. I know two boys who made a nice, large mat for the school-house entry and gave it to the teacher for a Christmas present. It was heartily appreciated, too. One would not be out of place in the church vestibule. Good husk mats can usually be sold in the neighboring village for fifty cents.

MAIDA McL.

CLOAKS AND DRESSING FOR ELDERLY LADIES.

BY CHRISTIE IRVING.

It is often very difficult for ladies a little advanced in years, though still young, to find just the most suitable wraps and bonnets, without making them look far beyond their years.

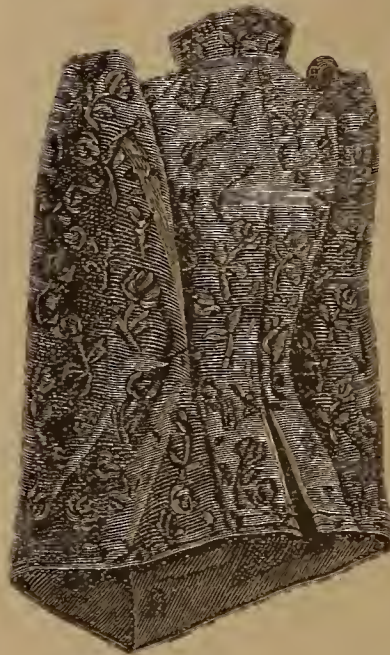
No lady cares to be older than she looks, and many well-preserved ladies of forty could pass for ten years younger, if it were not for the stalwart boys and young lady girls who call her "Mother."

When one has got beyond youth (some put the date at forty, but it is sometimes not that when the bloom is gone), a woman looks much better in a stylish little bonnet than a hat.

The face must still preserve some of its roundness to have a hat becoming, unless it is very small and of a toque shape; but a neat bonnet always gives one a ladylike appearance.

The wrap given bids fair to be very stylish, either in cloth or fur, and is called the military style.

The dresses present very comfortable



patterns for home wear, made in flannel of dark color, trimmed with some pretty enlivening color, without which no house dress seems just right. A dress of this kind would always make the house mother attractive.

Don't wear such sombre, dark, ugly dresses at home. They have their effect on everyone in the house. You will be surprised how soon they will speak of your pretty dress, and be glad that you are so attired.

Weed out your wardrobe this fall, rip up and clean everything that can be turned to account, and dispose of the rest to the ragman or the fire, reserving, of course, what will do for rag carpet. There would not be half so many moths if we did not provide such good places for them to stay in.

All the bright and new pieces that you will not now need, make into a pretty wool comfort after the pattern given in our last issue, and make a clean sweep of all you have been hoarding up for years. I think there is nothing so tiresome in housekeeping as looking over things past doing anything with.

If I had my life to live over, I'd quit keeping things for fear I should want to use them some time in the future. Use them now, or give them to some one who can.

With a dress from each of our illustrations, and a nice cloth dress for better occasions, a lady can be well dressed for the whole winter.

In these days one does not need so many dresses as much as appropriate dresses.

If you are a working woman, wear dresses to correspond to your business, and do not try to dress in business like your sister in leisure, who spends much time at home or in the demands of society. A woman is only well dressed when she is appropriately dressed.

If you are very wealthy and can afford better clothes, people will respect your taste for dressing plain. If you are poor and your dress shows you are aping beyond your means, people will only look down upon you for your fine clothes.

God made no mistake when he made the bee and the butterfly so different.

STRAINING AND RACKING YOUR Lungs and Throat with a rasping Cough is but poor policy. Rather cure yourself with Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, an excellent remedy for Asthma and Bronchitis.

QUINCE HONEY.

Put on the stove in a porcelain kettle, five pounds of granulated sugar and a quart of water. Let it become a thick sirup. When it ropes it is right, but if cooked too long it sugars and must be closely watched. Into this put four quinces chopped very fine. Let it simmer for half an hour on the back of the stove, then put into jelly glasses.

CHRISTIE IRVING.

A FEW GOOD DISHES.

BY ELIZA R. PARKER.

GUMBO.—Cut up a tender, well-grown chicken; fry with two sliced onions and a quarter of a pound of fat bacon, cut up. When brown, put in a saucepan, cover with water, add a dozen and a half pods of sliced okra, half a gallon of tomatoes, a pod of red pepper and a little salt. Stew very slowly for two hours.

FRIED CHICKEN AND TOMATOES.—Cut up two young chickens and fry in boiling lard; when done, take up, put in slices of ripe tomatoes and fry; season with salt and pepper and serve with the chicken.

CHICKEN DRESSED AS TERRAPIN.—Stew a tender, young chicken, cut in pieces and put in a saucepan with a quart of soup stock. Stir in two large tablespoonfuls of butter and one beaten egg. Serve with salt, pepper and thyme; add a small glass of wine, two chopped hard-boiled eggs, and stir one minute. Serve with wild grape jelly.

OLD VIRGINIA CHICKEN PIE.—Make rich pastry; line a deep tin pan with it and fill with stewed spring chicken, sliced bacon, a teacupful of bread crumbs, a pint of cream, a tablespoonful of butter, the yolks of three hard-boiled eggs; season with salt and pepper, cover with a top crust and bake slowly for two hours.

CORN PUDDING.—Grate the corn from a dozen ears; season with salt, pepper and a little sugar; add the yolks of four eggs, two ounces of butter and a pint of new milk; mix well, pour in a deep pudding-dish and bake in a slow oven; when done, beat the whites and spread over the top. Set in the oven to brown.

SUCCOTASH.—Shell a pint of Lima beans, put in a saucepan and cook twenty minutes; add double the quantity of corn, pour off the water and pour over a pint of new milk; add a tablespoonful of butter, with salt and pepper. Simmer slowly until very low; serve hot.

BAKED APPLE DUMPLINGS.—Make rich crust; peel and core good, tart apples; roll out the crust, cut out, place an apple on



MORNING COSTUME MADE OF BORDERED MATERIAL.

each round, fill the cavity with butter and sugar, press the dough together, put in a pan so they will not touch; spread over with butter and sugar. Pour a cupful of water in the bottom of the pan and set in the stove to bake.

PEACH DUMPLINGS.—Make rich crust, roll out, cut in pieces, and on each put a ripe peeled peach with seed removed; with each put a teaspoonful of sugar and butter. Draw the edges of the dough

The other two are charming. You ought to make enlarged copies of them and then transfer the drawings to the fan. The branches and blossoms you can draw free-hand, and if they are not precisely dis-

definite species. Paint the tree on which the birds rest a warm color of raw umber and white, tinged with the brilliant yellow light which they would catch from the setting sun, and let the foliage harmonize in color.

If you use oil paints you must be careful to make the painting neat. Turpentine skillfully mixed with the paint will keep it from spreading on silk or satin. When the fan is already mounted great care is necessary. If you are painting on an unlined piece of silk or satin, I can give you an infallible remedy for the spreading of oil paint; namely, get a lump of magnesia and rub it thickly on the *wrong side* of the material to be painted on.

Water-color paints are the daintiest for decorating fans, if for no other reason than because they are odorless. Use water colors just as you do oils, mixing Chinese white with all the other colors.

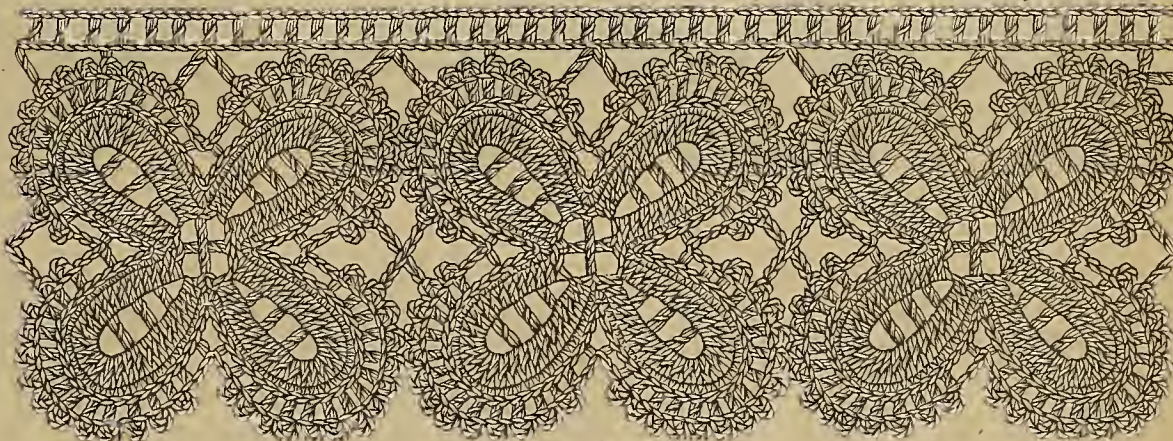
KATE KAUFFMAN.

CROCHET TRIMMING.

For the stars commence in the center.

First row—Make a chain of 20 stitches, * pass over 5 stitches of chain, 1 treble into the next, 2 chain, pass over 2 stitches, 1 treble into the next, 2 chain, pass over 2 stitches, 1 single into the next, 3 chain, 1 treble into the first of 20 chain, 18 chain, repeat from * 3 times more, join to the third of 20 chain with 1 single.

Second row—4 trebles under each 2



CROCHET TRIMMING.

chain of last row, and 16 under the 5 chain at end of one arm of star, 1 single into top of treble of last row, repeat from beginning of the row 3 times more, join to first stitch with 1 single.

Third row—1 double into each stitch of last row.

Fourth row—1 half treble into sixth double at side of one arm, 3 chain, pass over 4 stitches, 1 treble into next, * 4 chain, 1 double into first, pass over 1 stitch, 1 treble into next, repeat from * 13 times more; at the top of scallop, the trebles must be worked without passing over stitches, 3 chain, pass over 4 stitches, 1 half treble into the next, repeat from the beginning of the row three times more.

In working the next and following stars, join to preceding by drawing through a picot when working corresponding picot (see design.)

For the crosses between the patterns, work 1 single into a picot (see design), 7 chain, 1 single into second picot on next scallop, 3 chain, 1 single into fourth of 7 chain, 3 chain, 1 single into second picot on next scallop of star (see design), 3 chain, 1 single into single worked into center of 7 chain, 3 chain, 1 single into second picot on next scal-

lop of star, 3 chain, 1 single into center of 7 chain, 3 chain, 1 single into same stitch first single was worked into; break off the cotton and fasten neatly and securely at back of work.

For the heading:

First row—1 double treble into second picot of a scallop, 1 double treble into second picot of next scallop, 7 chain, pass over 2 picots, 1 double into next, 7 chain, repeat from the beginning of the row.

Second row—1 treble into a stitch, 1 chain, pass over 1 stitch, and repeat from the beginning of the row.

GLEANINGS.

In bottling ketchup or pickles, boil the corks, and while hot you can press them into the bottles, and when cold they are tightly sealed. Use the tin foil from compressed yeast to cover the corks.

Experiments at Cornell university show that the most and best butter cream is obtained by setting the milk in deep cans in ice-water. The addition of either cold or hot water was proved to injure the quality of the cream.

It may interest housekeepers to know that an easy way to test the quality of fresh fish is to try and bend them just above the tail. If they bend easily they are probably a little stale, but if rigid they are certainly fresh.

To make apple jelly from apple parings, take the parings, cover with water, let them boil until the substance is out of them, and strain through a fine sieve, then place the liquid in a pan, boil until reduced one half, add sugar enough to make a jelly; then add juice of lemon to one quart of jelly, or without lemon if apples are tart. Put up in jelly-glasses. Very nice for jelly cakes. Don't waste your apple parings—make them into jelly.

To flavor a roast of beef deliciously, to make it tender and to give the variety which is essential in every family, to do all this, nothing more is required than a large lemon. Cut it in two pieces and squeeze all the juice on the

roast. Then, after peeling the lemon, roll it up in the roast. When the lemon is used no water is needed. The roast should be a fat one, to insure good gravy, and the lemon acid will remove the oily taste sometimes objected to.

The *Schweizer Wochenschrift für Pharmacie* gives the following simple treatment for cold in the head: Put one teaspoonful of powdered camphor in a cone-shaped vessel filled with boiling water and covered with a cornucopia, the top of which is then torn off just enough to admit the nose, and the warm camphor vapor inhaled from ten to fifteen minutes. A repetition of this procedure after four or five hours will generally suffice to effect a cure.

THE SELF INSTRUCTOR

In Knitting, Crochet and Embroidery, published by Belding Bros. & Co., Now Ready. This book will be mailed free on receipt of six cents in postage stamps to any one sending their address. Can be had at the following offices: Belding Bros. & Co., New York, N. Y.; Belding Bros. & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Belding Bros. & Co., Cincinnati, O.; G. W. Ellis & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.; Adams & Curtis, Boston, Mass.; Coyle & Sargent, St. Louis, Mo.; Woodworth & Howes, St. Paul, Minn.; The Carlson-Currier Silk Mfg. Co., San Francisco, Cal.; Belding, Paul & Co., Ltd., Montreal, Can.

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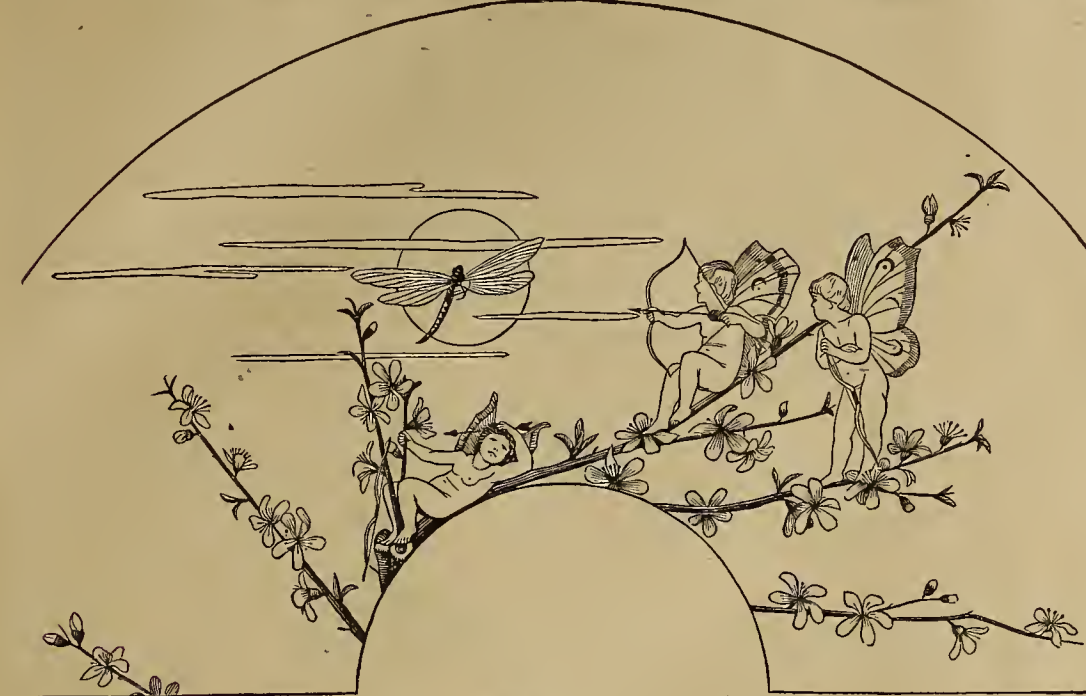
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DO YOU OWN TOKOLOGY?

Mrs. M. S. Ramsey, of Cedar Gap, Mo., writes: "Three years since I procured **TOKOLOGY**, a **Complete Ladies' Guide** in health and disease. I followed its teachings in two instances with happiest results. I cannot say enough in its praise. I ask every woman: Have you read **TOKOLOGY**—if not, then get it at once—its value cannot be estimated in money." Mrs. K. writes: "Send me an outfit for **TOKOLOGY**. My aunt in Dakota says: 'If you must sell books, sell **TOKOLOGY**, as it is, next to the Bible, the best book I ever read.'" Sample pages free. Agents wanted. Prepaid \$2.75. **Alice B. Stockham & Co., 277 Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois.**

If afflicted with sore eyes use **Dr. Thompson's Eye-Water**



FAN MOUNT.—No. 1.

firmly together; bake in a deep pan and serve with rich sauce.

FRUIT ROLL.—Make rich puff paste; roll thin and cover with berries or stewed apples; roll up, lay in a pan, spread thickly with bits of butter, sprinkle with sugar, put half a teacupful of water in the pan and bake. The sugar and butter will make the sauce.

PAINTING FANS.

Those ladies who know how to paint will often find more pleasure in decorating some object than in attempting to paint a picture. In the former case the defects of execution may be overlooked, but in the latter, all observers measure by a severe standard of excellence, and if the work is not very nearly perfect no one is satisfied.

A friend of mine lately took a white satin fan that she had used till it was quite soiled, cleaned it with gasoline, and then painted on it a group of beautiful blue-birds. The fan was prettier than it had been when new. Besides, she bethought herself to take it to the fair, where it took first premium.

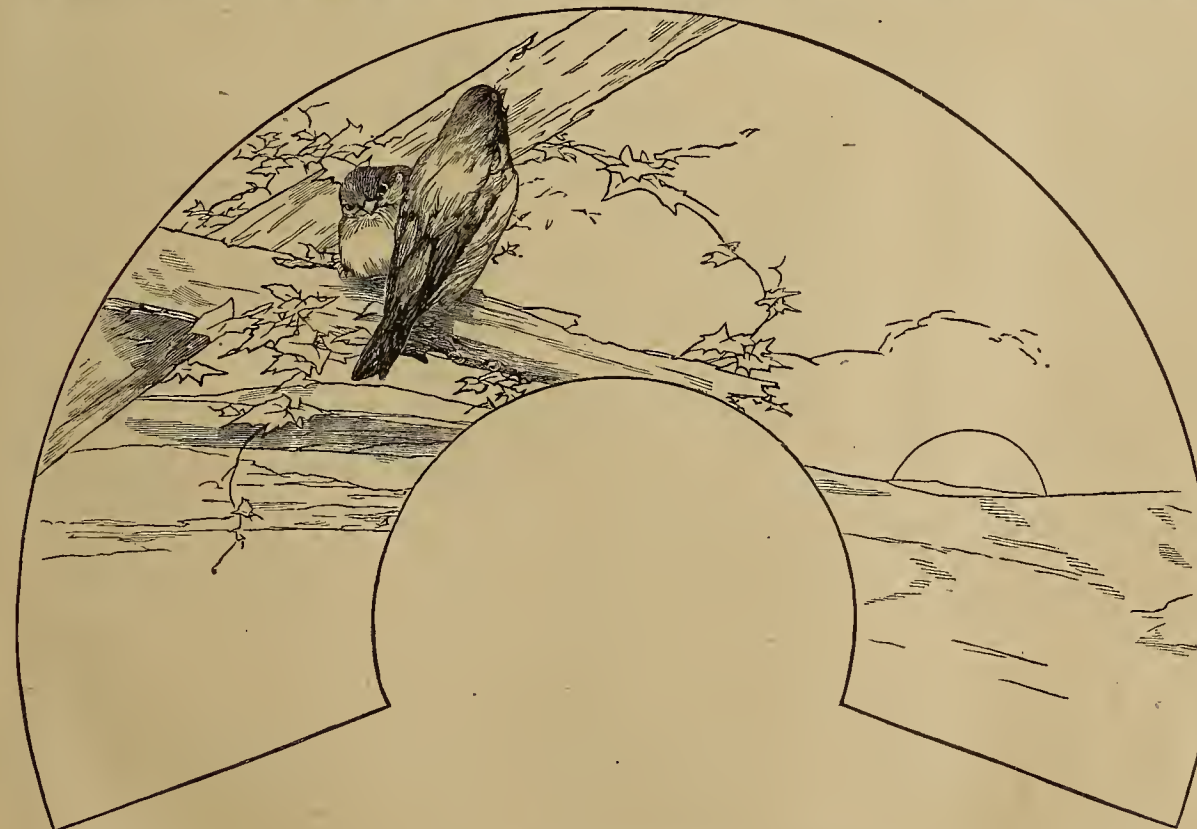
It is worth while to buy a fan of plain color and paint it. Two designs are given. Both would have to be enlarged, but that will give you no trouble if you remember the directions given as to "How to Enlarge a Picture."

The design marked No. 1 has the most difficulties, but it is exceedingly pretty and worthy of patient attention. It would be prettiest on a white fan, or one of pale blue would simulate a sky. It seems to be a midsummer-night-dream idea. Yes, the pale blue would be decidedly best;

posed as in the original design, it will not matter.

For the large insect stretching its wings across the moon, you can get a colored study from some natural history, or from nature itself, if you watch for it some summer day. For the wings of the fairies copy those of the prettiest butterfly you can find. For the flesh tint, use a mixture of white, yellow ochre, madder lake and vermilion. You need not try to shade the figures. Put golden hair on their heads and outline them with a mixture of burnt sienna and white, using a fine brush. Paint the bows and arrows with burnt sienna. For the tree stems use a mixture of burnt sienna, yellow ochre and white, and paint the blossoms pink. Now, remember that a recipe for painting always leaves a great deal to the taste and judgment of the painter. If you can supplement my directions with your own skillful execution, you will make a charming fan.

The design for No. 2 is not so difficult. A yellow fan could be utilized here and the effect be of a sunset. In that case, paint the sun with orange cadmium and make rays from it of light cadmium. Some horizontal clouds might be added, although there are none in the picture. The ground reaching from the horizon to the observer should be painted in a yellowish gray. The birds you could paint



FAN MOUNT.—No. 2.

then the full moon could be painted in white and horizontal clouds in white and gray. The tricky fairies must be drawn very carefully. The one recumbent is not a graceful figure and might be omitted.

according to your preference, and here, again, you might consult a scientific book with illustrations, or, if you know a taxidermist, get a natural study from him. The birds ought to be real birds of some

Our Sunday Afternoon.

"SOME DAY."

"Some day" the dreariest road will turn
And wind through landscapes fair and green,
By sparkling waters fringed with fern
And gardens bright with fragrant sheen—
"Some day," you say, "some day."

"Some day," you say, the weariest feet
Will pause, and loose their sandal ties,
And rest where shadows, cool and sweet,
Shut out the burning noontide skies—
"Some day," you say, "some day."

"Some day" the busiest hands will let
Their stint of work slip from their hold
Unfinished, and the stain and fret
Of labor from their waxen mold
Fade out, you say, "some day."

"Some day," ah well, I'm glad 'tis so,
Else heart and hand would fall—"some day."

Life holds so much of pain and woe
Ere yet we find the fair, glad way
That blooms for all—"some day."

"Some day," ah yes, I hope the hand
That in its hollow holds life's sea,
And what I do not understand
Of life and life's long mystery
Shall be revealed—"some day."

DOING ANOTHER'S DUTY.

UNCONSCIOUS self-betrayal is the most powerful of witnesses in determining social rank. The true lady shows her training in every word and gesture, but the pretender is too often found napping. A little girl, shopping with her mother one day, was sitting contentedly on a counter stool and watching the people as they came and went. Presently she saw a lady elegantly dressed, who stopped at their counter and handed a waterproof and umbrella to the young girl in charge.

"Take care of these things till I call for them," she said in an autocratic tone, and sailed away.

The bright eyes of the child followed her. The little face wore a look of distress.

"Why, mamma," she whispered, "she didn't even say 'please.'"

Sooner than she had expected, the lady returned.

"I will take my things," she said.

There was some delay in finding them.

"I hope you have not lost or misplaced them," she said, to the young girl, in a severe tone.

Neither misfortune had happened; the articles were found, and taking them without a word, the lady walked away. This was more than the child could bear. Leaning over so that her sweet face came close to that of the clerk, she said, graciously, "Thank you!"—*Detroit Free Press.*

THE REMEDY FOR WORRYING.

Last night I had a long talk with a lawyer, distinguished and able. He is now fifty years old. I remarked as to his apparently vigorous health.

"Yes," he said, "I am perfectly well. Two years ago I turned over a new leaf. I have broken down two or three times in my life, and I knew that unless I did something I should break down again."

"And what did you do?" I asked.

"I made up my mind that I would not worry about my business."

"And were you able by this act of your will to stop all worrying?"

"Yes," he replied, "I was. No matter how hard a case I have, or how discouraged the outlook is in my line of the business, I never let it trouble me out of the office. Why, the other night I slept twelve hours."

I stood in astonishment before this wise jurist and strong man in admiration for such determination. Not every man, possibly, has this power of will; not every man at fifty can give up worrying. But I believe that most men, by the supreme power of will, could cause themselves to worry much less than they do.—*Advantage.*

Harvey M. Lafolette, superintendent of public instruction, Indianapolis, Ind., says of the Revised Encyclopedia Britannica: "It combines admirably the features of the great English work with those more practical every-day matters demanded in American works. I regard it as an almost indispensable work for the school and library." Read our great offer of this work, in 20 volumes, on 15th page of this paper.

A COMMUNITY WITHOUT THE BIBLE.

Few people have much idea what kind of a world we should have if the Bible was left out of it. There are lands enough, however, without the Bible, filled with darkness, vileness and barbarity. There are plenty of histories of lands that had no Bible—dark places that are full of the habitations of cruelty—and there are here and there families and communities which have no Bibles, and which give us little encouragement to hope for good where the word of God is ignored and rejected.

Some time about the year 1870, certain sceptics founded in the state of Missouri an infidel town, called Liberal. The liberality of "free thought" was seen in the exclusion of all churches, Sunday-schools or preaching. It was proposed to have one community free from the influence of priestcraft and superstition. What was the result?

About this matter there has been considerable dispute. Some persons have given the place a very bad name; others residing there have denounced them as liars and pronounced their statements false. We have no personal knowledge of the facts, but on the 29th of May, 1891, the writer was in Burlington, Kan., and a well-known business man there, Mr. Robert Williams, said to him:

"In 1879, as I was passing through Missouri, I saw on my railway ticket the name 'Liberal,' and knowing something of the reputation of the place, I thought I would get off onto the platform and take a look around. But just before we arrived there, the conductor passed through the train and said: 'All who want to stop at Liberal go into such a car.' He then locked the doors of every other car on the train but that. When the train had started on and got out of Liberal, the conductor unlocked the doors again and passed through the train. Some one asked him why he had locked the doors, and he replied: 'This is the toughest town in all Missouri.'"

His language did not savor much of church or Sunday-school, but he evidently knew how to take care of his train and his passengers.

We give this fact as a contribution to the history of a godless town. Mentioning the matter in a certain place, a man remarked that he had visited Liberal since that time, that there were now two meetings and Sunday-schools there, and that they do not now need to lock the doors of railway-cars when they are passing through the place.

We give these statements for what they are worth, supposing them to be reliable, and believing that whoever undertakes to establish a community or nation without God will speedily come to the conclusion that Plutarch reached more than 1,700 years ago, when he said that "a city might sooner be built without any ground to fix it on, than a commonwealth be constituted altogether void of any religion."

LOOK TOWARD THE LIGHT.

The sailor on the midnight sea, if he would guide himself across the trackless deep, must not look upon the dark, troubled waves, but at the clear, blue heavens. If the sky is overcast and the stars are veiled by the clouds, he must turn to his compass; and its needle, ever true to the pole, will point to the star, though it be hidden from his vision. So we are tossed on many a billow. If we would see heaven's guiding light, we must not look on the waves of temptation that dash and break around; but above to God, should darkness and clouds gather in the sky. Let us turn to the Bible, and it will point to Him who shines beyond the clouds in unchanging glory.

ARE YOU GETTING ENOUGH OUT OF LIFE?

Daily toil is a wearisome thing if the hands only are busy and the head is idle. The systematic reading of good books is the cause and necessity for thinking. The Great Chautauqua Reading Circle offers the busy multitudes in town and country a course of home reading, indicates certain books, and tells how best to read them. The coming winter the course will deal with American History, Government and Literature. This plan is offered to you. Do you feel the need for it? Will you not write for full particulars to *The Chautauqua Office*, Drawer 194, Buffalo, N. Y.

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The Whole Physical Energy of the Human Frame.

Taken as directed these famous pills will prove marvellous restoratives to all enfeebled by any of the above, or kindred diseases.

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Prepared only by THOS. BEECHAM, St. Helens, Lancashire, England. B. F. ALLEN CO., Sole Agents for United States, 365 & 367 Canal St., New York, (who if your druggist does not keep them) will mail Beecham's Pills on receipt of price—but inquire first. (Mention this paper.)

OBEY THE LIGHT.

What a true word Mary spoke at Cana, when she said to the servants, "Whatsoever he saith unto you do it." She must have learned that out of those long, quiet, blessed years at Nazareth. Often she had been able to understand some deep word of his, and had been compelled to content herself with just doing some obvious duty to which he pointed, and as she did it, all became clear. She knew that there was no such way of understanding him as by rendering him literal obedience; and she passed on the results of her experience to us all. And how often has this taken place since. We have eagerly thought and read about the Master, trying to penetrate into the deep mystery of his nature, but baffled and rebuffed; but when we have set ourselves to obey some simple injunction, and to do the duty which lay next to us, all our doubts have dispersed, and being willing to do his will we have known of the doctrine. Men would never know what the forces of nature can do for them except by setting themselves to obey them. And it is so in relation to Christ and the laws of the spiritual realm.—*Rev. F. B. Meyer.*

WALL PAPER

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\$700 IN GOLD IF YOU SOLVE THIS REBUS. **GOED**

The above Rebus makes four words. We give \$250 Gold to the 1st one sending a correct answer; to the 2d, \$125; to the 3d, \$75; 4th, \$50; to each of the next ten, \$10; to each of the next ten, \$5; and to each of the next 25, \$2. You Win \$100 Gold if you send a correct answer to above Rebus. Answers must reach us on or before Dec. 15, 1891. Our December issue will announce the result of the contest, with names and addresses of the winners. We have given away over \$20,000 in prizes and premiums to our subscribers in the past two years and now have over 200,000 Circulation. Write your answer and name and address plainly. With your answer send 25c. postal note or 80c. in stamps for a subscription to our Illustrated 16 page Paper. Address **J. C. CANVEL & CO.,** 41 Beekman Street, New York. **\$200 REWARD** If we cannot show and prove that we give every prize offered and give them honestly.

Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

HENS OR PULLETS.

The EGGS from hens will hatch better than those from pullets, and chicks from hens will be stronger and more vigorous. Old hens will also lay as well as pullets, if properly managed, and they will usually begin to lay directly after moulting. Food and care will show its effect, no matter what the breed may be, but more dependence can be placed on some hens than on others, owing to the individual characteristics of each. Large, rosy combs are sure indications of thrift, and when such is the case the hens will soon lay.

Hens have been known to lay well until six or seven years of age, and just when to declare them too old for service is difficult, as some hens will last much longer than others. Probably the first year after the pullet becomes a hen she will lay the largest number of eggs, but the eggs will be smaller from a pullet than those from a hen. It is difficult to feed highly for eggs without making some of the hens fat, as they will fatten sooner than will pullets, owing to the latter appropriating a portion of the food to growth.

There is a great difference in the breeds, and in many respects. The pullets of the Leghorn breed will begin laying when they are but five months old, but pullets of the larger breeds sometimes grow until nearly ten months or a year old before they begin to lay. The number of eggs laid is entirely a matter concerning each individual, no two hens being alike. Fowls not only excel in certain characteristics according to the breeds, but they are good or bad only when viewed from the standpoint of their requirements, and in proportion to their treatment, in order to accomplish the purposes for which they are kept. Some excel as egg producers and some for market, and they must be managed accordingly. If eggs are required, without regard to market quality, only the breeds that are active and vigorous should be kept. Poultry for market should be a secondary consideration on an "egg" farm.

FARMERS' FLOCKS.

The farmer has plenty of room on his farm for poultry, and the land so devoted will return as large, if not larger profits than will an equal area planted to a crop, or used for other stock. Cheap houses can be built to shelter a hundred or more fowls, which will bring in the cash in the winter season, by producing eggs, thus largely aiding him to purchase many necessities while waiting for his crops to grow. There is but little risk of loss in keeping hens if they receive only a part of the attention bestowed on animals, and a very large percentage upon the cost is the certain return that may be realized by a farmer, on a small or large scale, where the business is conducted properly. There is more profit in raising choice poultry, and making a specialty of eggs, considering the cost and outlay, and which can be had annually, than from many other sources, not excepting cows, pigs or sheep, and yet the animals are fed and cared for at an expenditure for labor that would be considered appalling if bestowed on the hens, though the hens pay cash dividends daily for all they receive. Farmers would do well to look into this matter, and now is the time to consider it before winter sets in. Good fowls of any of the improved breeds may now be had at a very reasonable price, and we call the attention of these who have the facilities for keeping fowls, of taking advantage of their opportunities.

CABBAGE FOR HENS.

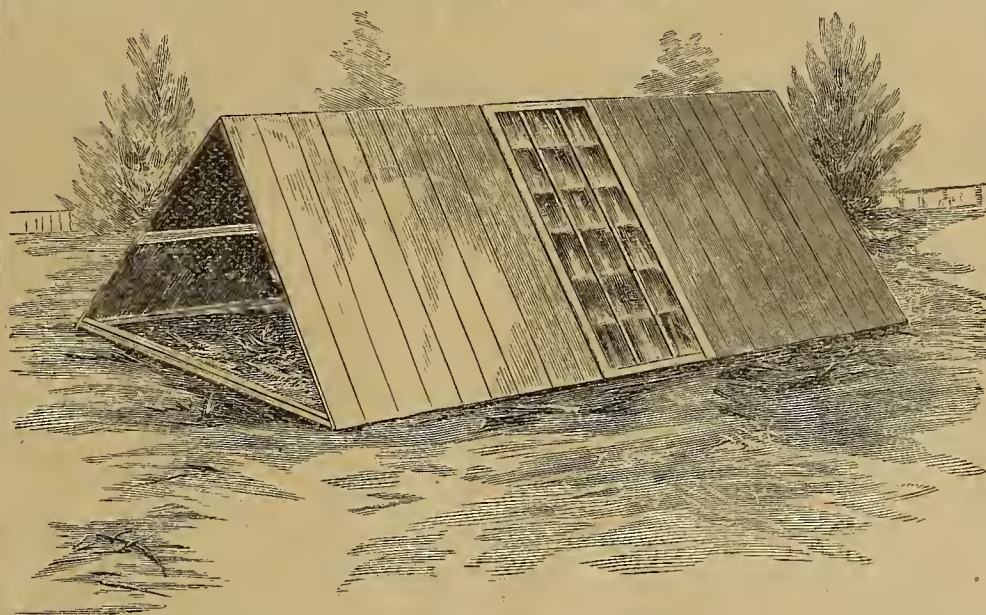
We do not believe it wise to recommend cabbage in winter, as they are expensive unless far from market, but a head of cabbage, tied to a stake, for the hens to pick will be appreciated by them as a variety, and it serves them from a dietary standpoint. Cabbages have always been regarded as one of the staple foods for poultry in winter, but their use depends on their cost.

EXTRA LARGE EGGS AND FEEDING.

We have been requested by a subscriber in Utah to mention that he has a hen that laid an egg which measured $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches longitudinally, and $7\frac{1}{8}$ in circumference; and he states that he has many such, asking us if consumption can lurk where the vital forces are so productive of life, and what food should be given to induce a tendency, on the part of the hens, to produce such eggs. In reply, we will state that such eggs, being of abnormal size, and also being monstrosities, are not uncommon, but they indicate a diseased condition of the reproductive organs, due to overfeeding. The hens do not lay such eggs as frequently as if of normal size, and the eggs contain no germs of life. The final result is usually that the hens cease to lay altogether, being extraordinarily fat, and if a change in their condition is not made, they will die of fatty degeneracy of the liver and heart, or of apoplexy.

A COVERED MOVABLE RUN.

A cheap and convenient covered run for the hens, during the occurrence of sudden storms, or in winter, as a protection against winds, is shown in the illustration. It has no floor, being intended to be easily removed from one place to another, the ground being the floor. It may be made of 2 by 3 inch scantling, for the frame, and may be covered with light half-inch boards, or with any kind of water-proof paper or muslin. The window may be of any size, but the hens prefer plenty of light. The run may be eight feet from the ground to peak, and 12 feet long, or by cutting 16-foot boards in half the upright boards will be the proper length. The run may be attached to one end of a poultry-house, to serve as a scratching place in winter. The ends may be open, or one end closed, as preferred, and it may be easily lifted up and arranged to suit the direction from



whence the storm may come. Any kind of cheap material may be used to construct it. We simply wish to give it as a suggestion, trusting that our readers may improve on it.

THE COMMISSION MERCHANT.

While some find it a matter not easily surmounted to secure the address of a commission merchant in whom they can rely, it is safe to say that the faults are often more with those who ship to market than with the merchants. The reputations of all merchants are at stake, and they will hold onto a customer who consigns only choice produce, and aim to secure for them the highest prices to be obtained. The farmer who ships strictly fresh eggs, and allows only choice poultry to leave his farm, will find that, instead of seeking a merchant, the merchant will seek him, as too much choice poultry never reaches the market.

PLANS OF AN INCUBATOR.

Those desiring to make an incubator can still procure the plans, free of charge, by addressing the editor of our poultry department, P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey, and inclosing two stamps for postago and stationery. The different parts are illustrated, and any one familiar with tools will find no difficulty. The object is to have the readers become interested in artificial incubation, and a home-made incubator not only permits of experiments but educates the children, as the eggs can be watched until the chicks come out.

EARLY CHICKS AND THEIR FOODS.

Cracked corn, wheat screenings, hay seed, or anything that the chicks will eat, may be given them. It is a practice with some to feed corn meal in the shape of dough, and such food is excellent as a portion of the ration, but not as an exclusive food. If the corn-meal dough is first cooked as bread it will be more wholesome, and the mess will be improved in quality if the meal is mixed with milk instead of with water. Chicks should never be fed much sloppy food. Dry, hard food is more suitable for them, and a luxury for them will be a mess of lean meat cut up fine in a meat-cutter. For green food for chicks, the clover leaves from barn sweepings, scalded, is excellent, and mashed potatoes will be highly relished. Keep little chicks busy all the time by inducing them to work at scratching for seeds. Exercise is very important in raising chicks, as it serves to prevent leg weakness, promotes appetite and renders them less liable to bowel disease.

COOKED FOOD FOR WINTER.

A cheap mess for winter, and especially for ducks, is cooked turnips thickened with meal and bran. It serves as a change of diet, and is the only soft food that will be necessary. Parsnips, potatoes, carrots and even beets, if cooked and grain added, will be found excellent for the hens as well as for larger stock.

HEN-MANURE COMPOST.

One of the best ways of disposing of poultry manure is to add it directly to the compost heap, where it will be mixed with all kinds of absorbent materials. The value of the poultry droppings on a farm is much greater than many farmers are aware. The manure from fifty hens will make a garden plot rich enough to grow all the vegetables for a large family, and as a "starter" in the hills for corn, in

Canaries.—Mrs. H. J. H., Vedder, Ind., writes: "When the nails on the feet of canary birds get too long, will it injure them to clip them?"

REPLY:—It may be done if not clipped too closely. They are liable to be very sore for awhile.

Lice.—Mrs. M. G. L., Kingman, Kan., writes: "What is the best preventive of lice or mites in a poultry-house?"

REPLY:—Kerosene is a sure remedy. Saturate every portion of the house with it. The well-known kerosene emulsion is equally as effective.

Hens Out of Condition.—W. N., Denver, Col., writes: "My hens do not lay, though they look well, are well fed, have comfortable quarters, are not afflicted with lice, and appear thrifty."

REPLY:—Probably due to overfeeding, the hens being too fat, hence are not in laying condition.

Effects of Draughts.—E. H., Omaha, Neb., writes: "I have a Black Spanish hen which seems to have a cold. She opens her mouth at every breath and gasps. The nostrils are closed, and roup is indicated."

REPLY:—It is probably caused by exposures to draughts of air at night, when on the roost. Inject two drops of a mixture of spirits of turpentine, one part, and sweet-oil, two parts, in each nostril. Add a tablespoonful of chlorate of potash to each quart of the drinking water.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A REMEDY FOR PUFFED SKIN IN CHICKS.—

I would say to E. W., of Ansbury, Mo., that if he will cut a little hole in the skin of his chicks that puff up, and let the air out, they will be all right. I have had a number, during the last three years, to puff up till they were nearly as round as a ball, when they were just beginning to feather—about one fourth grown—but as soon as the air was let out from under the skin they were all right, and grew as well as the rest.

MRS. N. C. W.

POULTRY FOR PROFIT.

Are you keeping poultry for profit, either in large or small numbers? No matter if you keep only a dozen hens; are they paying you a profit over and above their keep and eggs and poultry used in your own family? If not, can you explain why not? For poultry properly kept pays the best of any domestic animals. Do you care to learn how a man of experience does make his hens pay better than \$2.50 per year for each hen, from eggs alone; and who has to buy all of his grain and meat food? Do you desire to know how to make hens lay the most eggs in a year; how to dress and sell your poultry and eggs to obtain the highest prices? Do you care to learn about, and how to obtain the best breeds and crosses from which to get the largest number of eggs and most pounds of poultry to sell? And when and where to sell them? Do you desire to know how to prevent and treat diseases of poultry; how to get your hens through the moulting season well and strong; how to bring your pullets to early laying, etc? Do you care to learn how to build the best poultry-houses and yards economically, warm and dry? In short, do you desire to know how to make money with a few hens? If so, for the small sum of fifty cents you can learn all of the above and much more. Subscribe for one year to the FARM-POULTRY, if for no longer. Sample copy will be sent free. It is acknowledged on all sides to be the "Best Poultry Paper Published in the World." FARM-POULTRY is published by I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass., and edited by Mr. A. F. Hunter, a well known, practical writer and experienced breeder of Poultry for Profit. Send for Index to last Vol. free; and judge yourself, if as much complete, instructive, practical matter regarding poultry raising can be found in any volume costing four times the price of FARM-POULTRY one year. Subscriptions can begin any time.

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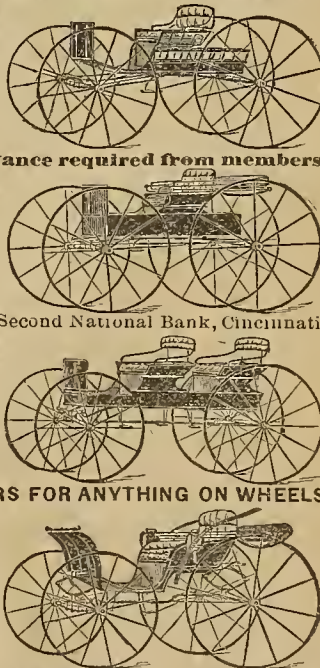
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the spring, enough can be secured from fifty hens to answer for five acres. Every pound of the droppings should be saved.

BUTTERMILK.

Buttermilk which goes to the pigs is well appropriated, but the hens will also be benefited by its use. Buttermilk for hens should be fresh from the churn, and not put in pans to be exposed to the sun. The same rule applies with skimmed milk, which should be in a fresh and sweet condition.

CORN AS FOOD.

As the weather becomes cold, a larger proportion of corn may be allowed. In feeding any kind of grain it should be done with judgment. Hens not laying require less than laying hens, and on very severe cold nights each hen should have a full feed of corn.

BURN OVER THE YARDS.

If the poultry-yards contain weeds or dead grass, as soon as the frost destroys all growth the yards should be raked, the refuse destroyed by fire, and if the ground is not frozen the yards should be spaded or plowed, in order to lessen disease during winter.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Mating Ducks.—E. G., Cincinnati, Ohio, writes: "How many ducks are usually mated with one drake?"

REPLY:—From six to eight.

Roosting in Trees.—J. R. G., Brownsville, Tenn., writes: "Is it advisable to allow fowls to roost in trees?"

REPLY:—It may be allowed, especially in your climate, but not during cold and stormy weather.

Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Carpet Loom Wanted.—J. J. B. Routs, town, Ohio. Hand carpet looms are made by the Eureka Loom Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Wire-worms on Potatoes.—H. A. M., Cortland, N. Y., says his potatoes are badly infested, and wants a remedy.

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—The only thing to be done in such a case, so far as I know, is to plant hereafter on ground that is free from wire-worms. Repeated plowing, especially in fall, may tend to clear infested ground.

Hop Refuse as Manure.—H. J. H., Gardenville, Mo., asks about the value of refuse hops from breweries for manurial purposes.

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Compost of refuse hops is greatly valued by florists, especially as an ingredient for the potting soil mixture. I have no analysis at hand, but believe it will pay to haul it a distance of six miles, even for ordinary manurial purposes.

Fish Compost.—C. M., Sanger, Wis., asks: "Is fish a good manure for loamy soil? How best applied, fresh or composted?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Fish is one of the very best fertilizers, especially rich in nitrogen and phosphoric acid. It will produce thrifty growth. By all means compost it with muck, using plenty of the latter and keeping the fish well covered all the time. Shovel the mass over a few times. You can also make ordinary stable manure much richer by composting some fish with it.

Onions Rotting—Budding Peaches.—C. H. S., De Soto, Mo., writes: "My Wethersfield Red, Red Globe and Pompei onions, grown from seed, did very finely until the tops began to die. Then a large number of them rotted. What is the cause of this?—Would it do to use buds for insertion from the same tree from the pits of which the seedlings to be budded were grown?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—I have never seen onions rot in the way mentioned, and can imagine no other cause but some malignant form of blight.—There is nothing to prevent the use of pits and scions from the same tree in the propagation of any variety of peaches.

Nitrate of Soda, Lime, Etc.—M. R., Troy, Ind., writes: "What is nitrate of soda, and what fertilizing element does it supply? Where can I obtain it, and at what cost? Is it good to prevent grape-rot, or what other fertilizer is? Is lime a good fertilizer for peaches?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Nitrate of soda is a salt-like substance, imported from Chili. It supplies nitrogen, only; can be had of W. S. Powell & Co., of Baltimore, and other leading fertilizer firms, at about 2½ cents per pound. There is no fertilizer that will prevent grape-rot. Lime is not a direct fertilizer. Use wood ashes or muriate of potash with hone, for peaches.

Making Apple-butter.—H. C., Mansfield, Ohio, writes: "Will some one inform me if there is any better way to make apple-butter than to hang a kettle on a pole over a fire in the open air and stand there and stir the butter all day long, rain or shine, with the smoke blowing in your eyes? Can the kettle be placed on a stove or furnace without damaging it?"

REPLY.—If you have an old-fashioned fireplace in your summer kitchen or wash-house, that is the place for making apple-butter. A manufacturer of sorghum molasses near here makes a fine variety of apple-butter in his sorghum evaporator. The apples are pared and run through a grater. When placed with the cider in the evaporator they cook very quickly.

Nasturtiums Not Bearing Seed.—M. C. M., Jonesboro, Ark., asks: "Why do my nasturtiums bear no seed? They bloomed profusely all summer, but the pods for the seed wither away. Will they come from the roots next year?"

REPLY.—The *Tropaeolum*, commonly called nasturtium, is an annual, and is not reproduced from the roots. The double flowering varieties bear no seed, and must be reproduced by cuttings, which take root readily in moist sand. Your nasturtiums probably grew in soil too rich for them to perfect seed. For seed, plant them in poor soil. For an abundance of flowers, plant them in rich soil. There are some varieties that are tuberous and perennial, but we suppose that you refer to the common nasturtiums.

Fall-sown Vegetables.—M. A. H., Orleans county, N. Y., writes: "Will spinach live over winter here? What varieties are best? Can lettuce be sown in fall and live through winter?—Is the Egyptian or Perennial tree onion a good thing to plant?—What can I do to prevent rats from eating my vegetables stored in pits for winter?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Any of the ordinary varieties of spinach can be sown now, and will live over winter with very slight protection of coarse litter or evergreen boughs. I plant the Round Leaf. I prefer to sow my lettuce in early spring, but you can also sow it in fall, late enough so it will not germinate, and it will start very early in spring. Plants started in fall and slightly protected during winter will also live through, usually.—My opinion of the Perennial tree onion is not very exalted. I dislike the flavor of the coarse leaves, and there is little else but top.—To prevent rat depredations, trap or poison them the best way you can.

Management of Liquid Manure.—R. I. C., Yates county, N. Y., writes: "I have an open yard where there is about two hundred wagon-loads of horse and cow manure made every year, so situated that by digging a cistern on one side I can save all the drainage. Will a large amount of such liquid keep from fall until May or June without becoming troublesome and dangerous to health, as the house is near the barn? Would the construction of such a cistern pay?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—The better way, by far, would be the construction of a roof over the yard to save the manure from leaching. And why leave all that good manure all winter long thus exposed instead of hauling it to the fields at once and thus prevent loss of plant foods? If you desire to compost it, however, and have no covered yard to do it in, by all means dig a cistern and save the rich liquid. I do not think it would be advisable to leave it to accumulate for the best part of a year, even if the cistern is large enough to hold the probably large amount of liquid. Better pump it back upon the manure heaps during a dry

time, when the manure may be heating over rapidly, or apply it to the fields, meadows, etc., before it can putrefy.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers, Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should enclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 35 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

Questions About a Young Stallion.—N. V., Vischer's Ferry, N. Y. The answers to your questions depend entirely upon the result of a careful examination. Besides that, your questions are rather of a too delicate nature to discuss them publicly.

Umbilical Hernia.—J. D. B., Swains, N. Y. Your colt has an umbilical hernia. Please consult recent numbers of this paper. If henceforth you desire an early answer, you must not only write your inquiry in time but also not neglect to mail it in time so that it can reach me before my correspondence has to go to the printing office.

Enlarged Joint.—R. E. D., Doyal, Tenn., writes: "My mule colt, five months old, got one of its ankles fastened in a fence, about two months ago. The aukie became enlarged and is very hard. What treatment should be used to remove the enlargement?"

ANSWER.—You may try judicious bandaging; beyond that you will not be able to do much.

Choked.—E. S., Harlan, Mich., writes: "What ails my mare? About two months ago while eating her oats she strangled, and ever since she has been coughing. I can't keep her up in feed, and she don't like to trot any. She is a very fast eater and when all right works fast, but now I can hardly get her along."

ANSWER.—Your mare, very likely, has some oats lodged in the mucous membrane of the larynx, trachea or the bronchi.

Skin Disease.—J. S. C., White Plains, N. C., writes: "We have a horse that has a breaking out and severe itching. He rubs and bites himself."

ANSWER.—Itching and a cutaneous eruption (breaking out) may have several causes. Therefore, where no other symptoms or information are given, a diagnosis cannot be made. Please look up the answers given to similar inquiries in recent numbers of this paper.

Discharges from the Nose.—M. L. C., Millview, Pa., writes: "My seven-year-old mare, when driven, has a starchy discharge from her nostrils. Five days in the week she is driven about four miles, and when I stable her I notice it. She coughed some this spring, but seems to be over that now. This morning I noticed it was from the left nostril. She is in good flesh and seems well and hearty."

ANSWER.—My advice is to have the animal subjected to a thorough examination by a competent veterinarian.

Refractory Sores.—M. L. D., Worthington, Minn., writes: "My colt was cut on a harbed wire across her breast and arm. After the wound healed warts came on the whole length of her leg. After the warts were removed the sores would not heal."

ANSWER.—Your description does not convey any clear idea as to the condition of the animal and the cause and nature of the "sores." If you are sure the latter are not farcy ulcers, you probably will effect a healing if you keep the "sores" clean and dress them twice a day with iodoform. If you are not sure that the "sores" are not farcy ulcers, you will have to inform the state authorities or the state veterinarian, if Minnesota has such an officer.

Probably an Abnormal Hernia.—D. S., Nunica, Mich., writes: "I have a cow that had a large bunch come on her side. It commenced at the udder and extended to the fore leg. It came all in one night, and for two days the cow refused food and suffered greatly. After that she appeared as well as ever, eats well, but has dried up. The bunch is still there, large as a bushel and like something filled with water. It is outside the ribs and only under the skin. I have lanced it, but nothing comes from it."

ANSWER.—What you describe seems to be an abnormal hernia. You can't do much, unless it be that you can ease the animal somewhat by a large bandage, which is possible only if the cow is exceedingly gentle. Don't use the laudanum again.

Probably a Rheumatic Affection.—M. B. C., Charlton City, Mass., writes: "I have a mare that has been lame for some time. Her limbs and feet are apparently all right; no swelling or heat or shyness. Sometimes she is lame in one leg, sometimes in the other, and at times has been a little lame behind, and all at once she would go lame. I bred her a year ago, thinking that it might help her, but it does not; she did not show much lameness after foaling, but has taken lame in pasture and went very lame for a few days, but seems to have gotten over it now. Can you give me any idea of what the trouble is?"

ANSWER.—Your description of the case points toward a rheumatic affection. It will require a careful, and maybe, repeated examination to make a definite diagnosis.

Warts.—S. B., Black Diamond, Cal., writes: "I write for information according to notice in FARM AND FIRESIDE. Have been a regular subscriber, and would willingly inclose the dollar, but having sent twice before without seeing any answer to my inquiries, will await results. How am I to get warts off cows' teats successfully while in milk? For a satisfactory answer through the paper or otherwise, I will gladly pay the dollar."

ANSWER.—If you have sent inquiries that have remained unanswered, they either have been anonymous—anonymous inquiries invariably find a repose in the waste-basket—or else your inquiry was not fit for publication, so you don't need to creak about sending a dollar. A request for an immediate reply, accompanied with the fee of one dollar, is invariably honored. Regarding the warts you complain of, I have to refer you to the already numerous answers, especially in recent numbers of this paper. You do not seem to be a careful reader of the veterinary department, even if you are a regular subscriber.

Possibly an Accumulation of Pus in the Air-sacks.—J. R., Iola, Wis., writes: "I have a mare five years old. She was taken with a severe cold in the head about six months ago. I noticed about that time that when I hitched her to the buggy she would throw her right ear back and shake her head at the same time. It seemed somewhat difficult for her to start. A few weeks after I noticed a yellowish discharge from the right nostril, and it seems to hang to her. The dis-

charge is not constant, nor is there any swelling of the glands. There does not appear to be any smell connected with the discharge. I thought for a while it was a case of glanders, and so consulted our veterinary surgeon, living some distance from here. He seemed to make a thorough examination of the mare and pronounced it not glanders. The discharge is of a yellowish color and somewhat inclined to be of a watery nature. While in the stable she discharges but little, but as soon as I begin to drive her, then the discharge, not profusely, but sufficient to look bad. For a time she lost flesh, but now seems to be gaining. What do you think is the trouble? What treatment would you prescribe?"

ANSWER.—Your description indicates an accumulation of pus in one of the air-sacks. My advice, therefore, must be to have the animal examined by a competent veterinarian, and if my diagnosis, based, of course, only upon your description, is confirmed by the result of his examination, to have the necessary operation performed. The latter being dangerous, except when performed by a thoroughly competent surgeon, will not need any description.

Probably a Fracture of the Ulna.—S. B. H., Forks of Buffalo, Va., writes: "My six-year-old mare was kicked by another horse, about the middle of last June, on her right fore leg, three or four inches below the point of her elbow and a little to the outside of the back of the leg. She was very lame for about four weeks, but could bear a little weight on it all the time. Then she improved a great deal for about two weeks, since which time she has not improved at all. When she walks very slowly the lameness is very slight, but increases as she walks faster, until, if she is made to trot fast, she goes on three feet. Have noticed that she will sometimes almost fall when she is walking slowly across a level pasture, when she makes what appears to be a misstep on the lame leg. There has never been any swelling and but little fever in it, and what fever there was seemed to be mostly on the inside of the leg, close up to the body. At first, for about ten days, I bathed the affected part with hot water, rubbed dry and applied a liniment made of spirits of turpentine, one half pint, cider vinegar, one half pint, spirits of ammonia, one ounce, and one egg. Since then I have not done anything for her but give her absolute rest on a good, level pasture, where she has gotten fat. She is with foal, and is a very valuable blooded animal, and I would like you to tell me whether she will get over it with my treatment, what is wrong with her, and what to do if I am not doing right."

ANSWER.—Your description, taken as a whole, indicates a fracture of the lower part of the ulna. Since it is three or four inches below the elbow, it may be possible to give the animal some ease and support by a well-applied bandage, only the bandaging must be commenced at the foot. Strict rest will probably effect improvement. Applications of spirits of turpentine and ammonia are uncalled for and cause unnecessary pain.

Several Ailments.—F. E. F., Harveysburg, O., writes: "Will you kindly inform me what ails my mare? She is thirteen years old, and for about four years she has suffered with weak eyes during hot weather. At times the lids are badly swollen, and water flows from them. They appear to be worse when on pasture, as the water drops from her eyes when she puts her head down to eat. She also has a stiff neck, which causes her to turn her head back between her fore feet when she eats from the ground. There are two lumps about the size of a hulled walnut in her throat at the base of the jaws. She has a good appetite, eats all that is placed in a manger and is in good condition. Would it hurt to breed her? She has never been pulled hard nor overworked."

ANSWER.—For the eyes, which seem to be suffering from a catarrhal inflammation, you may use an eye-water composed of morphine, 1 part, and distilled water 240 parts, to be applied three times a day by means of a small glass pipette capped with a rubber bulb. After the irritation has subsided, an eye-water composed of nitrate of silver, 1 part, and distilled water 240 parts, may be used in the same way. The stiffness of the neck (poll) is probably due to a formerly existing poll-evil. The lumps of the size of a hulled walnut, very likely, an enlarged thyroid gland, and constitute what is known as goitre. They are comparatively innocent and can be removed only by a rather dangerous operation; hence, leave them alone. I do not see any reason why it should hurt the mare to breed her. Another question which I cannot decide, is whether or not she is a desirable brood mare.

Luxation of the Patella.—F. J. S., Eau Claire, Pa., writes: "I have a colt four months old which had its stifle hurt. When I first saw it, which was four or five hours after it was foaled, it was twice as large as the other stifle. Our best horsemen here could not tell me what ailed it till it was three months old. A neighbor who had never examined it before then said that it was off joint; he took hold of it and put it back to its place, and with the exception of a little swelling, it looked as sound as the other one. I was very much pleased, but as soon as the colt started to walk it flew off again, and still continues to do so when put back to its place. It doesn't lame the colt much, and it can run as fast as its mate of the same age."

ANSWER.—Your colt suffers from a chronic luxation of the patella, and although it is easy enough to put the patella, or knee-pan, in its proper place, you will find it exceedingly difficult, or even impossible, to keep it there, unless you keep the animal in the stable, tie it in such a way that it cannot lie down and apply a good, sharp liniment or ointment that will cause considerable swelling on both sides of the knee-joint, because the ligaments, being abnormally lengthened since birth, give the patella too much play. If bandages could be applied, your task might be somewhat easier, but to apply them and keep them in position at that point is out of the question; or, at any rate, the apparatus required would be too complicated. Should you desire to make an attempt, the best sharp liniment you can use is oil of cantharides, prepared by heating one part of cantharides and four parts of oil for an hour in a water bath; but to keep such a young animal standing for several weeks in succession will be a difficult undertaking. If oil of cantharides is used, it may be applied once every four or five days.

Probably Foot and Mouth Disease.—A. L. F., Newbern, Tenn., writes: "The cattle in the counties of Dyer, Gibson and Lauderdale, Tennessee, have been affected with some peculiar disease which is unknown to our veterinary surgeons. It does not seem to be a contagion, but more of an epidemic. A small per cent of the affected cattle in Gibson and Lauderdale counties have died, but so far as we know of, none have died from it in Dyer county. Cattle so affected are first taken with a swelling about the mouth, tongue and jaws; the mouth gets so sore they

refuse to eat; in fact, they cannot eat anything except brau mash, or something of that nature. The swelling or soreness seems to move after three or four days, down the muscles of the neck into the shoulders and fore legs, thence to the hinder parts and into the hinder legs and feet, when they appear as a badly founded horse. The feet become so tender they cannot walk, when they get down and very often die. I learn to-day from a dealer of Gibson county, as many as thirty head are dead on one farm, and the disease is more fatal with them than first reported. They are usually sick from ten to twelve days and recover while others die after four or five days' sickness. More or less, fever attend all cases. Can you give us a name for this disease and treatment for the same?"

ANSWER.—Your description indicates the presence of contagious apthæ, or foot and mouth disease. The best you can do is to inform the proper authorities, so that they may take the proper measures to prevent its further spreading, and, at the same time, shoulder the responsibility. Foot and mouth disease, in itself, is not dangerous, and the fatal cases, as a rule, constitute only a small percentage, provided the animals are properly cared for, and the spreading of the morbid process to the feet is as much as possible prevented. The cases reported need by all means a careful investigation.

Probably a Foreign Body.—J. L. P., Bethel, N. Y., writes: "About three weeks ago I noticed on a three-year-old colt of mine what appeared to be a slight scratch or hole in the skin, out of which a few drops of blood were oozing. This was on the large muscle of the fore leg, just below the shoulder-joint. I thought nothing of it, but next morning there was a lump there about the size of a man's fist, soft and very sore. This began to swell rapidly and harden, and became painful, while the soreness left. This continued two or three days, causing him some stiffness on that leg when it broke, and what looked like a short pipe was formed, giving him considerable relief. It continued to run a couple of days, when it suddenly stopped and the swelling spread so rapidly that in less than two hours he entirely lost the use of that leg. The swelling spread not only up and down the leg but into his neck and breast and along the body. Up to this time I had thought there was some foreign substance in there, so I now lanced it, but no matter appeared, and all feeling seemed lost. The swelling still continued and I began to poultice it, using flaxseed and cow manure. After a time it again broke, discharging large quantities of watery matter. I still continue to poultice it and it still runs some, but the swelling, though greatly reduced, still remains, and he has not recovered the use of his leg. The last breaking was at the same place as the first, but I can detect nothing to indicate that there is a pipe there now. The colt is not a valuable one, as he has an enlarged hind leg, caused by his getting into a barbed wire fence when a yearling."

ANSWER.—Your description points toward the presence of a foreign body at the bottom of the wound, possibly pretty deep, close to or at the bone. Hence, the first thing necessary is careful probing, by which, also, the exact direction of the wound is to be ascertained. This done, the foreign body, whatever it may be—a bullet, a splinter of wood, of glass or of bone, a nail, etc.—has to be removed. To accomplish this—best, perhaps, with a bullet-forceps—the wound may have to be enlarged, if possible, in a downward direction. This would be necessary, also, if it should be found that the wound extends in a downward direction, so as to afford the exudates or the pus a free discharge. After this operation has been performed, and an existing foreign body been removed, or the fact been established that no foreign body is present, the wound must be cleaned and receive strict antiseptic treatment. If the wound is large enough, it may be best to fill it twice a day with absorbent cotton saturated with a five-per-cent solution of carbolic acid. If it is narrow and extends upward, a syringe may be used, and a five-per-cent solution of carbolic acid may be injected, say, three times a day. That the wound and its surroundings must be kept as clean as possible may not need any mentioning. If a good veterinarian were accessible it would be best to entrust him with the treatment.

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Our Miscellany.

DENTISTS are not all farmers, but they live off the achers just the same.—*Pittsburg Dispatch.*

THE Society of American Florists is taking active steps toward making a fine display at the World's Fair.

WHEN hammering nails into hard wood, dip the point of each into oil or grease and it can be driven in more easily.

"GUNPOWDER-BLUE" is a new color. The girl who meets her match dressed in that will be sure to go off.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

DID you ever notice how idiotic the smile of a pretty girl is—when it is directed towards some one else?—*Binghamton Republican.*

CHARACTER is like the grand old cathedral bell. Reputation is the brass tintinnabulum of the loud-mouthed auctioneer.—*Dallas News.*

THE doctrine of "like cures like" is illustrated by the fact that when people tire, the best thing they can do is to retire.—*Washington Star.*

A CAREER of extravagance does not necessarily bring a man sackcloth, but it is more than likely to bring him to hash.—*Washington Star.*

THERE is no trouble about propagating shrubs by cuttings, providing one has a cold-frame, suitable soil and the right sort of cuttings.

STATE averages for the corn crop are generally high, especially for the southern states. The lowest state averages are those of Michigan and Wisconsin.

A LOS ANGELES beekeeper writes to the *American Bee Journal* that the honey crop of California for 1891 is only one fourth of the amount produced in 1890.

THE raspberry-blackberry hybrids grown on the *Rural New-Yorker's* grounds, up to the present season do not give reason to hope for improved fruits through such crosses.

WAVES exert a force of one ton per square inch when they are only twenty feet high. At Cassis, France, granite blocks of fifteen cubic meters have been moved by wave force.

BEECHAM'S PILLS cure Bilious and Nervous Ills.

AFTER the leaves have dropped in the autumn is a safe time to transplant almost any garden plants of the hardy, perennial kinds. They should be well cut back a few weeks before moving them.

WE will mail free to any address, a copy of our Home Treatment, a positive cure for Leucorrhea, Whites and all Female Weakness. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope. May Flower Med. Co., 85 Lake Street, Chicago.

LARD is now so adulterated that the safest plan, if a pure article is any object, is to buy the leaf lard and try it out at home, straining into a large stone jar and keeping in a cold place. Where salt pork is bought in small quantities it can be kept also in a jar or tub half filled with brine, and the pork must not be allowed to come above it, a plate, smaller around than the jar, serving to keep it under.

A SALARY

With expenses paid will come handy to anyone who is now out of employment, especially where no previous experience is required. See advertisement on page 14, headed, "A Chance to Make Money."

THEODORE BENT, who was sent to investigate the famous Zimbabye ruins in South Africa, writes home that these ruins are undoubtedly of Phœnician origin, and that the inscriptions and other evidence he has found unmistakably indicate the form of worship, the manner of decoration and the system of gold smelting practiced by the vanished people who erected the structures. They are relics of a people far advanced in civilization, though the present inhabitants are mere savages.

CATARRH CAN'T BE CURED

With LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease, Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you have to take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is no quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials free.

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Sold by druggists, price 75 cents.

FIVE two-cent stamps will get you a sample of Arthur's Home Magazine, PHILA., Pa. Agents wanted.

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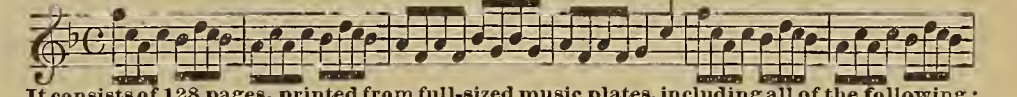
A Clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to **Coryza Remedy Co., 2006 Ninth Avenue, New York**, will receive the recipe free of charge. Mention this paper.

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Campbells are Coming	Fra Diavolo Quickstep	Last Rose of Summer	Peter's Hornpipe, Le	Sword of Bunker Hill		
Campdown Hornpipe	Flowers of Edinburg	Lady Walpole's Reel	Quitting Party, The	Tom, the Piper's Son		
Comin' Thro' the Rye	Girl Left Behind Me	Livpool Hornpipe	Rick's Lion Hornpipe	Thunder Hornpipe		
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Cincinnati Hornpipe	Happy New Year, A	Love's Old Sweet Song	Sailors Set on Shore	Vinton's Hornpipe (II.)		
Constitution Hornpipe	Haste to the Wedding	Miss McLeod's Reel	Shunster's Hornpipe	Washington's March		
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Beautiful Castle I've built	Going to Market (Four Hands)	Maryland, my Maryland	There is Rest for the Weary	Uncle Dan's jined de Saints		
Bye and bye (four hands)	Golden Days (Four Hands)	Maid of the Pump Room	Uncle Dan's jined de Saints	Woodman, spare that Tree		
Carillon de Dunkerque, Le	Harp that once through Tara's	Over the Water to Charlie	Woodman, spare that Tree	Wind that shakes the Barley		
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Dear Heart, we're growing old	In Time of Apple Blossoms	Oh, carry me back to Old Virg.	Within a Mile of Edinboro	Watchman, tell us of the night		
De Banjo an de Banjo	Keep the Horseshoe over Door	On the Banks of the Beautiful	Watchman, tell us of the night	Where the Many Mansions be		
Don't drink, my boy, to-night	Lamplighter's Hornpipe	Sparkling Dew-Drop Schott's				

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Smiles.

FAHRENHEIT.

Little Johnnie had a mirror,
But he ate the back all off,
Thinking, rashly, in his terror,
This would cure his whooping-cough.

Not long after Johnnie's mother,
Weeping, said to Mrs. Brown,
"It was a chilly day for Johnnie
When the mercury went down."

—Princeton Tiger.

AS IT IS.

This is the state of man: To-day he puts forth
The tender leaves of hope; to-morrow blossoms
And bears his blushing honors thick upon him;
The third day comes a frost, a killing frost,
And—when he thinks, good, easy man,
Full surely his greatness is a-ripening—Biff!
He is defeated by forty-three votes in an out-
side precinct. —Detroit Tribune.

ASPIRING HIGH.

UNCLE JASPER was a colored man of very devout intentions, but his knowledge of the scriptures was of a somewhat uncertain character. He lived in "single-blessedness" a good many years, but finally, in the evening of life, he married, and in due time an heir was born to him. The next day after the advent of the little one, a gentleman met Jasper in the street.

"I understand you have a baby at your house, Uncle Jasper."

"Yas, sah; we has dat," Jasper replied, with a broad grin and a satisfied chuckle. "We'se got a baby dar, sho'."

"Is it a boy or a girl?"

"Hit's a boy, sah. Yas, sah, hit's most sho'ly a boy."

"Have you named him yet?"

"Yas, sah; we has."

"What name have you given him?"

"Wah, sab, you knows I'se done allus been a pow'ful han' fer dem scriptur' folks, 'cause I'se allus been a monst'ous strong b'liever in de Bible. So I 'lowed I'd name him arter some o' de big officers what de Bible talks ob, an' I studied 'bout which un I'd name 'im arter, an' at las' I settled outo Beelzebub, sah. Hit's a mouty fine name, sah; an' hit 'pears lack I'se 'spirin' powerful high, but I 'lows dat chile'll sho'ly do credit to hits namesake, sah. Hit most sho'ly will."

ONCE WAS ENOUGH.

A young gentleman who lately left his home in England, having exhausted his credit, telegraphed to his parents:

"Your son was killed this morning by a falling chimney. What shall we do with the remains?"

In reply a check was sent for £20, with the request, "Bury them." The young gentleman pocketed the money and had an elaborate spree. When in condition for writing, he sent his father the following note:

"I have just learned that an infamous scoundrel named Barker sent you a fictitious account of my death, and swindled you out of £20. He also borrowed £10 of me and left the country. I write to inform you that I am still alive, and long to see the parental roof again. I am in somewhat reduced circumstances, the accumulations of the last five years having been lost—a disastrous stock operation—and if you would only spare me £20, I would be ever thankful for your favor. Give my love to all."

A few days later the young man received the following dignified letter from his outraged parent:

"MY DEAR SON:—I have buried you once, and that is the end of it. I decline to have any transaction with a ghost."

"Yours in the flesh, FATHER."

HIS GRIEVANCE.

It is true now, as it was of old, that man is born to trouble.

"I don't know what Smith does with his money."

"No?"

"No, I don't. Yesterday he was short, and he's short again to-day."

"Did he want to borrow from you?"

"No, haug it, I wanted to borrow from him."

—New York Press.

UNFORGIVEN.

The pet of the household knelt as usual to say his prayers at his mother's side.

"God bless papa and mamma and Uncle Ed and—and—" here he hesitated.

"And Polly," prompted his mother.

Polly was his nurse.

"Ma!" he cried indignantly, looking up. "Can't I skip Polly? She spanked me to-day."

THE TEMPERED WIND.

"Being banished to Siberia is not wholly an evil to the poor Russians."

"Indeed?"

"The ukase that banishes them to Siberia relieves them of their names. They are always afterwards known by a number."

AT RETAIL.

"Ink is cheap."

"I don't know about that. I left a penful on the back of a note once that cost me two thousand five hundred dollars."

GOV. NICOLL'S ANATOMY.

"I see you had something about Senator Vilas' rabbit foot," said a gentleman to me last night at the New York hotel, "but I can tell you a good story about Gov. Nicolls, of Louisiana. You know Gov. Nicolls lost an arm and a leg, but so deftly havethe artificial members been fitted to the stumps that few people are in the secret of his loss. He is looked upon by the negroes with the utmost reverence. They say he is an awful 'hoodoo,' and they would not try to cheat him or annoy him for the value of the world."

"Some time ago, while on a visit to a friend, he left his negro body-servant at home, and his friend sent a bright negro lad of eighteen to help the governor undress. The boy's name was Ned, and when the governor was ready to retire, he stretched out his artificial leg, saying: 'Ned, remove that leg.' Ned's eyes began to open with horror, but he took the leg off. 'Now unscrew that arm,' said the governor, calmly. Ned looked at him with his eyes bulging until nothing but the whites were to be seen, but he took off the arm. Gov. Nicolls saw how frightened he was, and determining to have some fun with him, said, reaching out his head: 'Ned, unscrew that head.' But, with a whoop and a yell, Ned was gone. He spread the story among the negroes, and I have seen them watch Gov. Nicolls at a respectful distance with open-mouthed wonder." —New York Tribune.

THAT LITTLE BROTHER.

The big sister's little brother is a great favorite with the alleged humorists of the age. The bright, peculiar and trying conversations that take place between the said little brother and the said big sister's lover are always worth reproducing in the columns of the funny paper. But there is a grave suspicion that many of the speeches attributed to children are the thoughts of maturer brains, and that children never utter them at all. However, it cannot be doubted that little folks occasionally say something that may innocently mean much more than intended. "Children and drunken men speak the truth," and the truth is often distressing. One of Chicago's young men had been calling on one of Chicago's young ladies for a time. The young lady has a little brother, and a few Sundays ago the little brother and the admirer of the sister were left in each other's society.

"Why don't you bring your violin with you some time?" asked the brother.

"I have no violin, my little man," said the admirer of the sister.

"Pa thinks you have," added the boy.

"What did he say," asked the lover, "that shows he thinks I have a violin?"

"Why," said the ever-innocent youth, "I heard him tell ma that he guessed you were fiddling around after some money."

The foregoing is a true story, the sequel to which is the lover has ceased to fiddle. —Chicago Herald.

EXPERIENTIA DOCET.

"I've got teu thousand dollars; I want to build a house."

"You can't do it."

"Why not?"

"It takes twenty thousand dollars to build a house for ten thousand dollars."

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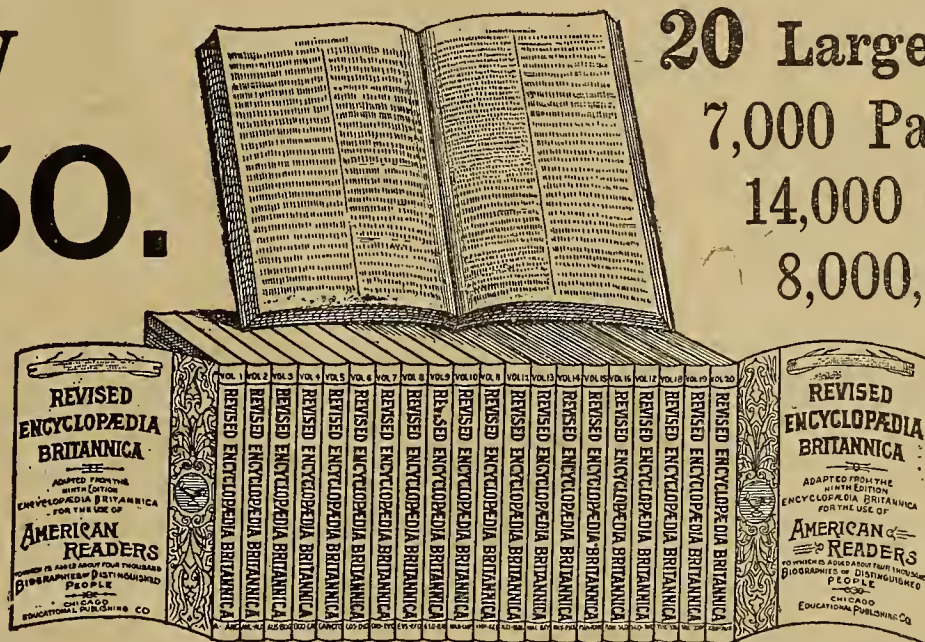
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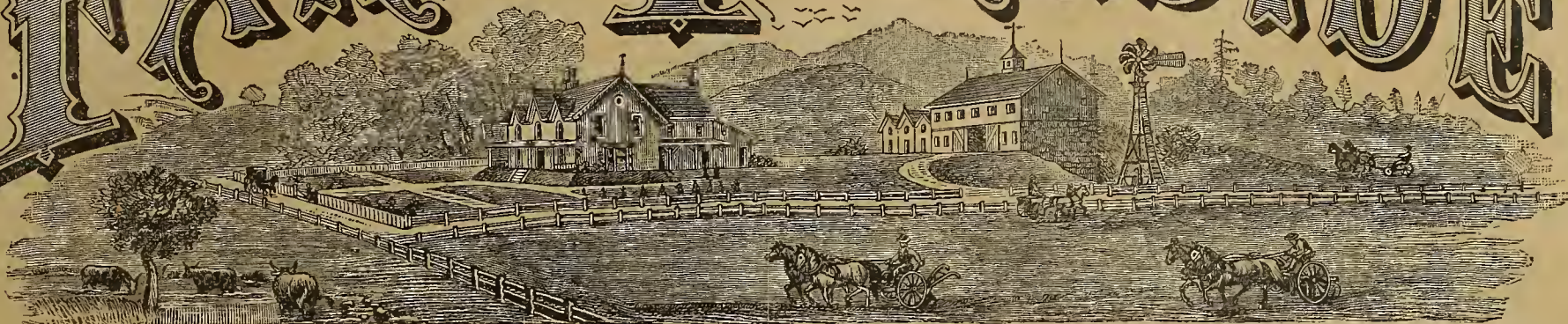
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FARM & FIRESIDE.



EASTERN EDITION.

VOL. XV. NO. 3.

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Current Comment.

LAST month the treasury department published a statement on the foreign commerce of the United States for comparative periods under the old and new tariffs, from which we take the following extracts:

During the eleven months from October 1, 1890, to August 31, 1891, under the operation of the new tariff law, the total value of our foreign commerce, imports and exports of merchandise combined, was \$1,782,266, or an increase of \$74,387 over the value of our foreign commerce during the corresponding period of prior years, when it was \$1,529,013,627.

The average annual increase of our foreign commerce (imports and exports of merchandise) during the twenty years from 1871 to 1891 was \$38,314,352. It will be observed, the increase during the first eleven months under the operation of the new tariff was nearly double this average annual increase.

Of the total commerce of the eleven months ending August 31, 1891, the value of our imports of merchandise was \$763,210,965, an increase of \$25,681,316 over the value of the imports of the corresponding months of the prior years, and the value of the exports was \$840,571,301, an increase of \$49,087,323 over the prior period.

The value of merchandise imported free of duty during the eleven months ending August 31, 1891, was \$364,661,336 as compared with \$252,648,255 imported free of duty during the corresponding eleven months of the prior years, an increase of \$112,013,081 during the first eleven months after the enactment of the new tariff.

During these eleven months the portion of merchandise admitted free of duty was 47.78 per cent of the total imports, while for the corresponding months of the prior years the proportion of merchandise admitted free of duty was 34.27 per cent, an increase of 13.51 in the percentage of free goods imported under the new tariff. This is the greatest in amount and percentage of merchandise admitted free of duty in the history of our foreign commerce during any similar period.

The value of imports of merchandise free of duty during the fiscal year 1890 was \$265,668,629, the largest in any year in the history of our commerce. In 1889 the value of imports of free goods was \$256,487,078. In comparison with these entire years, it will be observed that the value of imports of free merchandise for the first eleven months, under the new tariff, was \$98,992,707 greater than for the year 1890, and \$108,174,258 greater than for the year 1889.

During the eleven months from October 1, 1890, to August 31, 1891, the value of imports of dutiable merchandise has

been \$398,549,629, while during the corresponding period of the preceding years the value of dutiable merchandise was \$484,881,394, showing a decrease for the eleven months under the new tariff of \$86,331,765 in the value of the merchandise paying duty.

It may also be noted that the total value of the imports for the eleven months, \$763,210,965, exceeded in value the imports of any year in the history of our government, excepting the fiscal year 1890, when their value was \$789,310,409. If, however, the imports of September, 1891, equal those of August, the total imports will largely exceed those of 1890.

The value of our exports of domestic and foreign merchandise during the first eleven months ending August 31, 1891, after the new tariff, was \$840,571,301, and \$49,087,323 larger than the exports of like merchandise for the corresponding eleven months of the prior years while the old tariff was in force, when they were of the value of \$791,483,978. This increase of \$49,087,323 in our exports during the eleven months ending August 31, 1891, was nearly two and one half times greater than the annual average increase of exports of merchandise during the twenty years prior to 1891, which was \$20,750,425.

During the same eleven months of 1890-91, the value of the exports of merchandise has exceeded the value of the imports by the sum of \$77,360,336. The importance of this large excess of exports over imports will be appreciated when it is compared with the excess of exports of the fiscal year 1890, when it was \$68,518,275. In 1889 the balance of trade was against us, and the imports exceeded the exports \$2,730,277. In 1888 the balance against us was still larger, and the imports exceeded the exports \$28,022,607. It will be observed that the increase in the value of our exports of merchandise is large and very gratifying. This value of our exports for the eleven months ending August 31, 1891, namely, \$840,571,301, exceeds the value of the exports for any year in the history of our commerce, except the fiscal years 1881 and 1890. The value of our exports for the twelve months ending August 31, 1891, which includes September, 1890, and the first eleven months under the new tariff, was \$909,264,438, or, in round numbers, about \$7,000,000 greater than during any previous fiscal year.

IN the middle of September last the Irrigation Congress met in Salt Lake City, Utah. It was composed of representatives from seventeen states and territories, who met for the purpose of deliberating on a subject of the greatest importance to the western half of the Union. The work of the convention was embodied in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this congress is in favor of granting in trust to the states and territories needful of irrigation, all lands now a part of the public domain within such states and territories, excepting mineral lands, for the purpose of developing irrigation to render the lands now arid, fertile and capable of supporting a population.

Resolved, That the said grant of lands should be made by the United States, so conditioned that the state or territory receiving the benefit shall use the funds so derived from the sale or lease of such land: First, to promote the reclamation

of arid lands; second, for the benefit of the public schools.

Resolved, That the trust so created shall be so conditioned as to secure the ownership of irrigable land to actual settlers in suitable holdings, not in any case exceeding 320 acres.

It costs much less to reclaim an acre of arid land that is irrigable than it does to clear off an acre of primeval forest. But there is this great difference. The ax of the individual pioneer can do the latter, while irrigation is a work that requires the co-operation of many. The best part of the public domain now open to settlement is in the arid region, and the tide of immigration is turned toward it. The people of the whole country would not be willing to pay enormous taxes to the federal government for the purpose of enabling it to carry on the great work of reclaiming the arid lands of the West.

The work must be done, if done at all, under state instead of federal control. Hence the action of the Irrigation Congress in asking for the ceding of the lands in trust as the first step in the great work of reclaiming the irrigable lands of the arid districts.

IN one respect at least," naively remarks the *Rural New-Yorker*, "it appears to be a rather fortunate thing for us that free silver coinage is not now in force. Owing to our enormous exports of food stuffs to the famine-threatened countries of Europe, the influx of gold from across the Atlantic in payment is already great, and sure to be greater. The bullion value of our large silver dollar is only about eighty cents, and if free coinage of silver existed here now and the bullion value of the dollar remained the same, or, if there was any premium on gold, foreign countries would be likely to pay us for our exports in silver bullion at the rate of eighty cents on the dollar. Now if the foreign debtor sends us silver, he will get credit only for its bullion value in gold, as he can dispose of it here only at its market price per ounce, instead of being able to get eighty cents' worth of it coined into a big, white dollar payable for one hundred cents' indebtedness. Few disappointments are without compensation to the philosopher.

THE Department of Agriculture reports complete success in its recent experiments at Medicine Lodge, Kansas, with the "alcohol process" in the manufacture of sorghum sugar. The new process gives a greatly increased yield, an improvement in quality and a better separation of the sugar from the molasses.

The Kansas *Farmer* gives the following concise description of the process that promises to do much for the sorghum sugar industry:

What is this "alcohol process" which gives such important results? It is simply an addition to the processes heretofore used in the manufacture of sorghum sugar. When the cane juice has been reduced to a thin sirup, preferably to a sirup containing about forty-five per cent of water by weight, a quantity of ninety-five per cent alcohol is mixed with the sirup. This alcohol immediately precipitates the gums, starch and kindred ingredients of the sirup. These substances then settle rapidly to the bottom of the tank, leaving a mixture of sirup and alcohol in the upper part of the tank.

This mixture of sirup and alcohol is thus drawn off into another tank. The precipitate in the lower part of the tank also contains, mixed with it, a considerable quantity of the mixture of sirup and alcohol. This is recovered by the usual method of filtering by means of a filter press, and is added to that drawn off, as above described. The alcohol is separated from the sirup by distilling. The sirup is thenceforth treated by the usual methods of first-class sugar factories. The alcohol, as it comes from the sirup, brings with it considerable quantities of water, so that it is below the desired strength. It is brought up again to ninety-five per cent by redistillation.

THE reciprocity provision of the tariff act gives the president power to reimpose, after January 1, 1892, a duty on sugar, hides, tea, coffee and molasses coming from countries which by that time fail to make equivalent concessions in favor of our commerce.

Under the reciprocity provision, treaties have already been made with Brazil, with Spain for Cuba and Porto Rico, and with San Domingo. The treaty with Brazil went into effect April 1, 1891, and has not been in operation long enough to show its full benefits, but already our exports of domestic products to that country have been largely increased.

If the reports coming from Washington are true, a reciprocity treaty has been concluded between the United States and Germany, which will be of great importance to the farmers of this country. In return for the free entry of German beet sugar into this country, Germany is to largely reduce her duties on American breadstuffs and meats. Our imports from Germany in 1890 amounted to nearly \$99,000,000; our exports to Germany in the same year amounted to more than \$84,000,000. A reciprocity treaty will give us a larger market for meats and breadstuffs in that country and turn the balance of trade in our favor.

THE master of the National Grange has sent a circular to the members of the order, congratulating them and farmers generally on the bountiful crops and the prospects for good prices that will surely bring better times. He advises them to secure their fair share of the rewards of labor, and not permit the speculators to pocket all the advance in the price of grain. In his opinion, not one bushel of wheat should be sold for less than \$1 a bushel, and that it will be the fault of the farmer if it brings less. He says that not only have we reason to congratulate ourselves upon better prices for our produce, but we are also to be congratulated that the dollars thus received will buy more farm and family supplies than ever before in the recollection of the oldest inhabitant.

THE value of the exports of breadstuffs for September, 1891, was \$31,462,021. The value of the same for the corresponding period last year was \$7,199,348. A comparison of these figures shows the greatly increased activity of trade, due to the foreign demand. Our surplus is now going abroad as fast as the ships can carry it. During the first half of the present year about \$70,000,000 of our gold coin was taken from us by Europe. The gold is now coming back faster than it went away.

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vertised in several papers.

Our Farm.

GLEANINGS FROM THE LAST ANNUAL
MEETING OF AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL
SOCIETY.THE twenty-third biennial
session of this society was
held recently in the city
of Washington. The meet-
ing, although not so well at-
tended as usual, was mem-
orable on account of the
fruit exhibit, being the best
seen for years. Eight longtables extending across the large lecture-
room of the national museum were filled
with the choicest specimens of the fruits
of both temperate and sub-tropical climes.
There was a magnificent collection of
pomaceous as well as citrus fruit, and in
the miscellany, everything from the
choicest and rarest grapes to a remarkable
collection of cultivated persimmons. It
was a unique display, equally interesting
and instructive. An invaluable object
lesson, teaching the horticultural possibil-
ities of different sections of our country.Another valuable feature of the session
was the placing at the service of the
society all the collections, fruit models,
drawings, etc., of the Division of Pomol-
ogy of the Department of Agriculture.
This added much to the interest and value
of the meeting.The customary address of welcome was
delivered by Assistant Secretary Willits,
who said among other things: "It was
fitting that the Department of Agricul-
ture, where breadth and scope of duties
find a place for pomology, and watches
with interest its progress and develop-
ment, should extend the hand of fellow-
ship and give the society a cordial wel-
come. The American Pomological Society
represents interests at this date that far
outrun the most rigid imagination of its
most sanguine originators.In 1848 California was practically un-
known, and Florida, the American Italy,
was chiefly renowned for her everglades
and her hostile Seminoles.The orange, the lemon, the fig, the per-
simmon, pomegranate, pineapple and
olive were luxuries imported from foreign
shores. Since then a complete revolution
has been wrought, and in that work this
society has been an important factor.The improved methods that you have
brought about, the new varieties you
have propagated and introduced, the
assiduity with which you have studied
soil and climate and adaptability, the
genius you have shown in improving
flavor and increasing productiveness, the
sacrifices you have made and the fortunes
you have spent in the endeavor to make
our good varieties hardy; all these have
been recorded and will be gratefully re-membered by generations who enjoy the
healthful pleasures you have brought to
their repasts. You have given joys that
never satiate and sweets that never fall.The Department of Agriculture justly
feels some pride in the part it has taken
in this great revolution. Its division of
horticulture has been prolific in results,
and is working in its restricted field with
an honest effort to co-operate with you,
while in the division of entomology and
vegetable pathology, horticulture has
found abundant and timely assistance in
fighting insect pests and vegetable par-
asites.Hon. C. L. Watrous, of Des Moines,
Iowa, responded to Secretary Willits' ad-
dress of welcome. He said that in no
other country was there a government
department that devoted itself so success-
fully to the welfare and comfort of the
common people of the land.One of the chief duties of the society is
to introduce into the country new classes
of fruit, and to straighten out the crooked
places in their nomenclature. Another
important work that is being done more
especially by the western members of the
society, is the perfecting and developing
of the fruits that were used by the
aborigines of this country with the object
of making them more suitable for the
uses of civilized man.The address of President Berckmans
was replete with good thoughts and
timely suggestions. In discussing the
work of auxiliary societies he urged the
importance of holding frequent meetings,
especially during the fruit season,
whereby the merits and demerits of fruit
could be ascertained and careful reports
made to the state society. In this way
the chairmen of state fruit committees
could collect more reliable data than they
are able to at present. Too often our state
horticultural reports are deficient in re-
liable and practical information. The
state which gives the most comprehen-
sive and reliable report as to its advan-
tages in fruit production will receive the
most intelligent, energetic and desirable
addition to its population; and that com-
munity most exclusively devoting itself
to horticultural pursuits is found to ad-
vance more rapidly in everything tend-
ing to elevate, refine and enrich its cit-
izens.In urging the importance of more
scientific work in horticulture, Mr. Berck-
mans said that when we compare the
wonderful array of the various fruits
with which our markets are now sup-
plied with those of a single generation
past, we may well feel amazed at the
variety and abundance, as well as im-
proved quality, of our orchard, vineyard
and garden products. A few years ago
many fruits were offered in such limited
quantities that the names of special vari-
eties were almost wholly ignored. Now,
the market report issued by every com-
mission man who values his interests
names the varieties of all classes of fruits,
and quotations are made according to
their respective value. Purchasers are
becoming gradually educated to a knowl-
edge of the best varieties, and inferior
sorts are being driven out of the market.Keeping these facts in view, our fruit
growers are interested in improving our
popular varieties of fruit by the most
careful methods of cultivation, harvest-
ing, preserving and marketing, knowing
that they can increase their pecuniary
returns by promoting the advance of
scientific horticulture.One of the more interesting papers was
read by Mortimer Whitehead, of New
Jersey. He presented, through the kind-
ness of Superintendent Porter, some hor-
ticultural census statistics not before
made public. Among the figures given
were the following:The viticultural industry in the United
States represented in the census year 1890,
an interested capital of \$155,661,150, giving
employment to 200,780 persons.Floriculture shows an investment of
upward of \$40,000,000, and annual sales
amounting to \$26,000,000.The figures of truck farming show an
investment of \$100,000,000, and with an
annual product of over \$76,000,000. Seed
growing is becoming an important branch
of horticulture, nearly 170,000 acres being
now devoted to this purpose. The United
States has 4,510 nurseries, valued at \$42,-
000,000 and occupying 170,000 acres of
land.These nurseries produce over 500,000,000
fruit-trees a year, of which nearly one
half are the apple. The peach industry of
this country is immense. The total acre-
age devoted to this fruit is over 500,000;
value of annual crop, \$76,000; value of in-
vestment, upward of \$90,000,000.Great strides have been made during
the past few years in the production of
tropic and semi-tropic fruit and nuts
within the borders of the United States.Of oranges, Florida has nearly 4,000,000
bearing and upwards of 9,000,000 young
trees not bearing; California, 523,400 bear-
ing and 1,500,000 not bearing. Of cocoa-
nuts, Florida shows nearly half a million
bearing trees and one half as many more
non-bearing. In the way of pineapple
culture, Florida has 23,496,000 plants.
Of almonds, California returns 336,464
bearing and 405,464 young trees not bear-
ing.Another paper that received close at-
tention, and elicited an animated discus-
sion, was read by Mr. D. W. Adams, of
Florida. The subject was "Pruning."
He began by stating that our present
system of pruning proves that we believe
in the total depravity of fruit-trees, and
that the only way to save them is by
means of wholesale butchery. Men for-
get that the first and direct result of cut-
ting any tree was to do it a permanent
and irreparable injury. Pruning for
growth is a myth, and to remove a branch
is to do a tree more harm than to cut off a
root. Pruning may induce fruitfulness,
because it imperils the vitality of the tree.
It lays a tree open to all sorts of diseases,
and is a defiance to all the laws of nature.
Insect ravages and fungus diseases are
incited and increased by the pruning-
knife above and the plowshare below.The above statements were not accepted
by some of the members present, and
quite a number of pointed questions
were asked. One was as follows: "If you
had a barren orchard and knew that it
could be made fruitful by pruning, would
you use the knife?" To this Mr. Adams
replied that he would if he was sure that
pruning would cause fruitfulness, but he
would want good proof of this before he
began. He did not wish to be understood
as saying that there might not be advan-
tages resulting from pruning that would,
under some circumstances, overbalance
the disadvantages. He simply wished to
support the general proposition that cut-
ting a tree hurts it. He had never seen a
pruning-knife that made as neat a cut as
nature does, nor a cut that heals as well.Even in this modified form the views of
Mr. Adams were challenged by quite a
number of members who maintained
that a judicious pruning was not unnat-
ural, and invariably resulted in positive
advantage to the tree.Among other papers on the programme,
those of the greatest practical value were:
"Success with Small Fruits," by J. H.
Hale, of Connecticut; "New and Prom-
ising Small Fruits," by J. T. Lovett, of
New Jersey; "Effect of Cross-fertilization
as Affecting Quality and Value of Citrus
Fruit," by Rev. Lyman Phelps, of Florida;
"The Hybridization of Plants," by Prof.
C. E. Bessey, of Nebraska, besides others
of nearly equal interest. Altogether the
meeting was a successful one, and those
in attendance felt well repaid for their
time and trouble.President Berckmans called attention
to the noted pomologists that had died
since the last meeting, and feelingly al-
luded to the severe and almost irreparable
loss the society had sustained in the death
of Patrick Barry, of New York; Charles
Gibbs, of Quebec, Canada; John F.
Streizel, of California; P. W. Augur, of
Connecticut, and Dr. George Hunter, of
New Jersey.The president and secretary were re-
elected, and the society accepted an in-
vitation to meet in Chicago in 1893.

WILLIAM R. LAZENBY.

COMMENTS ON CURRENT LITERATURE.

BY JOSEPH (T. GREINER.)

CUCUMBER FORCING.—Prof. L. H. Bailey,
of the Cornell University Agricultural Ex-
periment Station, Ithaca, N. Y., is just
issuing a bulletin on this interesting sub-
ject. Very little, indeed, is done in this
country with the English forcing varieties
of cucumbers, which present the most im-
proved type of this class, and deserve to
become much better known. Some of the
market gardeners in New Jersey grow theordinary White Spine, Long Green, etc.,
in their cold-houses, planting them after
spinach which is marketed in March, and
make the crop pay quite well, as it can be
put on the market several weeks in ad-
vance of the earliest cucumbers grown in
open ground. The production of the Eng-
lish varieties during winter would, I be-
lieve, be much more profitable, and cer-
tainly on a par in this respect with that
of tomatoes and similar vegetables. Good
fruits sell in winter at from twenty-five to
seventy-five cents apiece, and sometimes
even higher.Mr. John F. White, of Mount Morris,
who raises fruits and vegetables on a
wholesale scale, has greenhouses devoted
entirely to growing cucumbers and celery
plants. The benches are very narrow,
about eighteen inches wide, if I remember
right, next to the sides of the houses, with
a wide alley between. Here the cucum-
bers are started and trained up under the
roof in the usual way. The celery plants
are started in flats during February, and
the flats are set upon supports in front of
the narrow benches on each side, leaving
just room enough for a person to pass
along comfortably in the center of the
house. Mr. White told me that the
cucumber crop paid him well.The general requirements of houses,
temperature and moisture, says Prof.
Bailey, are essentially the same as for the
forcing of tomatoes and beans. The
house should be light and warm, with
brisk bottom heat. A night temperature
of 60° to 65°, and during the day of 70° to
75° is preferable. Sometimes, of course,
the temperature will run up to 85° or 90°,
and even more in full sun, and with ven-
tilators open. Water must be applied
abundantly to prevent flagging. In bright
weather the air should be kept moist by
wetting the walks, both to assist growth
and to check the ravages of the red spider.
The beds are about eight inches deep, and
consist first of an inch layer of clinkers or
potsherds, for drainage, then three or four
inches of partially decayed, rich sods,
preferably from an old pasture, then about
four inches of good, rich garden soil, to
which has been added one fourth part of
well-rotted manure. If the soil is some-
what sticky, enough sand is added to
make it loose and porous. The ground
should be rich and liquid manure be ap-
plied during the winter as occasion seems
to demand, for the productiveness of the
plants is almost entirely a question of
food.The plants are started on inverted sods,
or better, in three-inch rose pots. These
are filled about two thirds full of earth,
and filled up to the top only after the true
leaves have appeared. To be prepared for
the attacks of aphids and fungi, it is best
to start two or three times the number of
plants than will be required for a full
stand. They should finally stand from
two and one half to three feet apart. They
are trained on a simple trellis of No. 18
annealed wire, upright, when there is
sufficient room above, along the roof,
when the benches are low. The wires are
stretched lengthwise the house in parallel
strands, from a foot to a foot and a half
apart, and cross wires are run down from
the rafters every four or five feet to pre-
vent the strands from sagging. The vines
are tied upon the wires with raffia or
other soft cord.On the whole, it is perhaps easier to
force the common cucumbers than the
English sorts. The latter need brisk bot-
tom heat, and require from eighty to one
hundred days from sowing of seed to the
production of marketable fruits. The
following are favorite varieties: Sion
House, averaging a foot or fourteen inches
when full grown, smooth and regular;
Telegraph, smooth, slender and very
handsome, ordinarily attaining a length
of eighteen or twenty inches; Kenyon,
smooth, slender, of medium length;
Lorne, or Marquis of Lorne, one of the
best of the very large sorts. The fruits
should not be allowed to lie upon the soil,
and the heavy ones are sometimes sup-
ported in a sling to prevent injury to the
vines. Cucumbers, especially the Eng-
lish sorts, set and mature with no pollen
whatever; but in that case fruits are
usually later and perhaps fewer. Hence,
hand pollination appears to be essential
upon the first flowers, and always when
seeds are desired. Seed bearing is not
necessarily associated with deformity of
fruits, although upon some plants it ap-

pers to conduce to the production of swollen ends, which, however, seems to be avoided by swinging the fruits. The spotted mite and aphid can be destroyed by Hughes' fir-tree oil, and the powdery mildew is kept in check by the ammoniacal solution of carbonate of copper.

Altogether, I think there is no great difficulty in producing large crops of cucumbers in the winter when one has the house and the fixtures required; and even these need not be expensive. It is a promising field and worth cultivating. The bulletin mentioned (No. 31) gives many of the details of the business not mentioned by me, and people interested in the subject should try to secure a copy.

PLANT DISEASES.—I have just received No. 1 of Vol. VII of the Journal of Mycology, issued by the Division of Vegetable Pathology of the United States Department of Agriculture. It speaks of the sweet potato black-rot, certain experiments in the treatment of various plant diseases—peach-blight and similar things. The remedies now recommended for the majority of fungus diseases are the various forms of copper solutions, such as the Bordeaux mixture, ammoniacal carbonate of copper, etc. And this reminds me of the dangers of such applications. I do not think that these mixtures, as applied, are actually poisonous. In fact, I have eaten grapes that showed the bluish-green marks of the Bordeaux mixture, applied by myself. I happened to be in New York City a week or so ago. Just at that time the board of health had seized tons of fine grapes and had them dumped into the river, simply because the stems were found to be discolored by the Bordeaux mixture marks. The chemists consulted about this did not seem to know much about the true nature of the drug, and in some cases mistook the marks for those made by Paris green solutions, and pronounced the grapes dangerous, if not actually poisonous.

At this time the markets were well supplied with grapes, and the latter were quite cheap already. This scare, of course, served to demoralize the whole business in grapes, scared people and depressed the prices, causing a great loss to the shippers. Perhaps the hasty action of the board of health was unwarranted. On the other hand, we should admit that in anything affecting the public health, the authorities can hardly act too promptly, and we should not expect that city people are posted in regard to the latest discoveries and changes concerning the treatment of plant diseases. The average druggist knows nothing of the nature or preparation of the Bordeaux mixture, or of an ammoniated copper carbonate, etc.

The growers themselves are largely to blame for all this trouble and loss. They had no business to use the Bordeaux mixture spray after the berries were well developed. It sticks worse than glue, and the growers should have known it, for the Department and the agricultural press have often enough warned against a late application of that bluestone and lime combination. If any application is needed somewhat late in the season, the ammoniacal solution of carbonate of copper should be used. This is applied in much weaker solution, washes off more easily and does not show. It would have been very difficult for the chemist to detect traces of copper on grapes thus treated. On the whole, I think this will prove a wholesome lesson to the grape growers. The instructions given by the Department and the press have been very explicit, and the growers should have followed them more closely than was done.

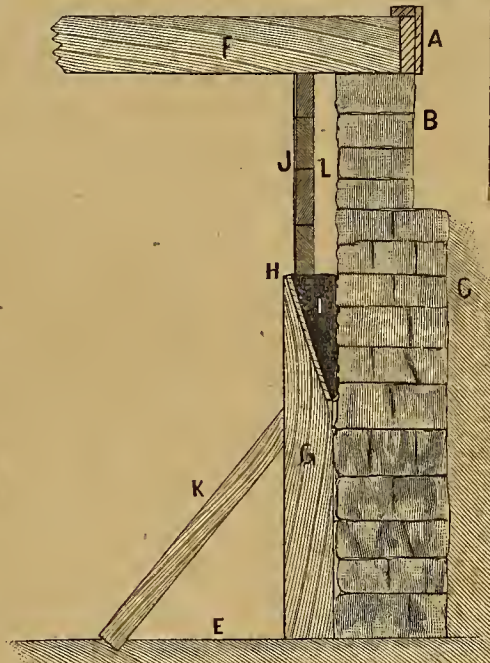
MAKING FROST-PROOF CELLARS.

The annual banking up of cellars is as much a part of the yearly routine of most country residents as is the putting on of winter clothing. It spoils a day or more in both fall and spring, and for six or seven months gives the house much the same appearance that a boy with a sore throat has when his mother pins a stocking around his neck. As the country becomes cleared up, and sawdust and tan-bark become scarce, the annual banking becomes more difficult and less pleasing, as manure, straw, sod or corn-stalks must be used.

Now, this is all unnecessary. The banking should be inside instead of outside, and permanent instead of temporary. If the house is yet to be built, build its

cellar wall so it will not need banking. This is easily done by making the upper part of the walls double, with an air space between. Build the lower part of the wall thick enough to allow of such construction. The outside may be seven or eight inches thick, of dressed underpinning, as usual; the inside of brick laid on edge. The air space need not be more than two inches thick. This requires a wall of twelve inches or more, which is none too thick for durability. The sills need not be the full width, as a cleat or course of brick laid flat may close the top of the air cavity. Whatever way is adopted, the cavity should be air-tight, as therein lies the secret of protection from frost.

If the cellar is partially under rooms not used or warmed in winter, a matched ceiling should be nailed on the under side of the floor joists. The stairway is often a source of loss of heat, especially when the door opens into a cold room. The heat rises, and every time the door is opened a volume of it escapes, to be replaced by cold air from the walls. Again, the chamber stairs are constantly cooled by the frosty air above them and absorb more or less warmth that should remain in the cellar. The simple boxing in of the cellar stairs and ceiling overhead will often be sufficient, without doubling the underpinning, but in all new buildings, in climates where the winters are prolonged and severe, the underpinning should be double with a confined air space. Where walls are already in use which have no provision for an inner lining, an offset may be constructed of cement grouting to sup-



FROST-PROOF CELLAR.

port the lining. To build this, take four 2x4 scantling, long enough to reach from the cellar bottom to within two feet of the bottom of the sill. In each piece saw in one inch on one edge, 18 inches from one end, and then from the opposite corner of the same end with a rip-saw, take out a piece down to the first sawing.

In the drawing, G represents one of these pieces. The four are to be set 2½ feet apart on the cellar bottom, E, against the wall, C, and securely braced in position with a brace, K. In these notched scantling-place a ten-foot board 18 inches wide. The end of this is represented at H. This board will form a wedge-shaped cavity next the wall indicated at I. This cavity is to be filled with cement grout, formed by mixing dry, one third good cement with two thirds sharp sand. After this is wetted to the consistency of a thin batter, it may be mixed with an equal quantity of coarse gravel and shoveled into the cavity. A little stiff cement mortar should first be put in the bottom to prevent leakage. If the wall has been pointed, that is, the interstices between the stones of wall filled with mortar, part of this should be picked out in order to give the grouting a better hold on the wall. After the grout has been in position twenty-four hours, the board and supports may be moved to use in another place. After two or three weeks the grout will be hard as rock and adhere to the wall with sufficient strength to support a brick lining, and thus save the expense of building a lining from the bottom of the cellar where it is not needed.

In the drawing, J represents the lining made of brick on edge with the air space, L, behind it next the underpinning, B; A being sill and F a floor joist. I might

add that it is frequently desirable to divide a cellar into two parts by a brick or double wood partition, having a larger portion for the main storage room and keeping in the smaller one only a month's supply of fruit and vegetables at a time. This will permit the larger room to be closed the greater part of the time, not being subject to daily visits for supplies. It is a fact not generally known, that a cellar or other room, well insulated from the outside atmosphere by non-conducting walls, can be kept for weeks at a nearly uniform temperature if not disturbed. So if a cellar can be kept closed, after cooling it down to a certain temperature, it will remain at that point for some time.

I need hardly add that such a uniformity is best for keeping all kinds of vegetables and fruits. Finally, the improvements advised in this article may all be made in stormy weather in the fore part of winter, it only being necessary to provide the materials before freezing weather.

Summit county, Ohio. L. B. PIERCE.

SPRING LAMBS.

In the *Farmer's Home Journal* of September 12th is the item: "Lambs are being engaged in Harrison county, Ky., for next year's delivery at 5¼ and 5½ cents per pound."

Since mutton has become the key-note to American sheep husbandry, and spring lamb figures so conspicuously in the profits of agricultural sheep raising, an indication of the price that spring lambs are to bring next year is encouraging. There are a set of men, not always sheepmen, who distrust the future market. They are a sort of chronic grumblers, and may be considered quite respectable since it has so often been found true that when the American farmers turn their attention to any one product they will surfeit the market. This has been so certain that we have the aphorism, when the farmers rush into the production of one crop, it is a good time to let go and raise something else.

The American people have not been mutton eaters very many years, but they seem to have taken to it with all the naturalness of our English cousins, and until they cannot get a good quality they will remain buyers and consumers. It will be quality that shall govern the demand. It is not now as formerly with city families, as I found when I was permitted to investigate this industry a few months ago in the greatest cities of the West. I found cultivated families were using a quarter of lamb two and three times a week, and their Sunday dinners were unfortunate indeed if the spring lamb was not secured. It was not a quarter of lamb that could be bought in almost any butcher's stand, but was ordered in advance to be of best quality. If it did not come up to the standard, the butcher lost a good customer and he knew it.

I did wish all the lamb raisers were with me and saw what I saw in the stock-yards at Cincinnati last May. The lamb season began earlier last spring than usual. These lambs were sold and shipped in May. There were sent out from one yard twenty-five double-decked cars with 250 in each car—6,250 lambs, and all from Kentucky, averaging 78 pounds. Their ages were under four months, I should think, and some of them not over three. Their breeding and management showed the skill and intelligence of their breeders. There was evidently a perfect knowledge of what the Boston market wanted, and all the conditions for producing what would sell were strictly complied with. Quite in contrast with this lot of lambs was found in the Union stock-yards in Chicago. There were 1,500 lambs shipped from Nebraska that were a sorry lot. They would not pay the freight, I was told. Why were they sent to Chicago or any other market? The answer was the shipper didn't understand what was wanted, what would sell—was not posted. It showed that a lamb, though born in the spring, was not always the "spring lamb" quoted in the market reports.

What are such lambs used for? Oh, they are sometimes sold to farmers or dealers who take them to pastures and fit them up, or they are sold to canners who put them up as "chicken salad" for the trade. (That settled the chicken salad we

buy in grocery stores for me, and forever.) Fortunately for these lambs, and for me (my sympathies were enlisted), they were sold to go on pasture out in Wisconsin.

That morning I was looking and listening. Yes, I may as well own up, I was talking to everybody who looked like he might tell me something. This is the only way to find out what I don't know, and most any fool can tell the truth. On the fence was a man whose eyes showed that he knew what he saw. His dress indicated he was from the West, and his features indicated some Spanish blood in him. These indications suited me and I approached him after the western fashion. He was from New Mexico. He was there with spring lambs. I was interested, and he told me all about New Mexico spring lambs. They were yearling wethers when they left New Mexico, and were fed in Kansas on corn and hay. So they were two years old? Yes; but by some cause unknown they passed regularly as spring lambs. Their joints broke like spring lambs—this is one evidence of tender age known to butchers and their customers. He said there would be 150,000 New Mexico yearling wethers brought into Kansas to be fed for next year's market.

I was catching onto the spring lamb business and was ready to believe what I had before taken as a joke. A friend who herds merino sheep was showing me his flock of old ewes and made the remark they were to be fattened for the spring lamb trade. I said: "Tell me about it." He said it was hardly fair, but he would tell me in a whisper. "Of course we have old ewes that have been good ones, but they get past breeding and have to be gotten rid of. We thought we would try an experiment, so we put them into the barn and gave them soft feed, all they would eat, and they got very fat by spring; so we sheared them and got a grand clip off of them, which paid for their wintering, and more, too. Then we consigned to our commission merchant to sell for what they would bring. Just to learn something I went into the city to see what became of the old 'crones.' They sold for a fine, near the top price. I went to the man and inquired about the sheep and learned he sold them for 'spring lambs.'"

Now, none of these yearlings from New Mexico nor the old toothless merino ewes can make mutton or spring lamb worthy the name. It is an imposition, a substitute that cannot deceive the aesthetic consumers. What spring lamb is and how produced may be shown in another article. Since there is no line of sheep husbandry more attractive or more profitable, it should be carefully studied by growers and by consumers from first to last. The mutton of this country has been the subject of much unnecessary sarcasm. Much of this has been lived down and overcome. This marks the era of a better system and more uniformly profitable industry than any preceding period in this country.

R. M. BELL.

TIME TO SELL.

Our own rule in regard to selling is to let a thing go when it will pay a fair profit above cost, whether it be a crop or some stock. To hold for an advance beyond such a profit constitutes speculation, the risks of which are quite as likely to result in losses as in profits. A boom is quite generally followed by a reaction. A good time to sell is when folks are anxious to buy.—*New England Homestead.*

Used Crutches

Terrible Sufferings From Salt Rheum

"I have had salt rheum, and for a year one of my legs, from the knee down, has been

Broken Out Very Badly

When I commenced to take Hood's Sarsaparilla I was worse than I had been before, a part of the time being unable to walk without crutches. On taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, improvement was so marked that I continued until I had taken three bottles, and am now better than for years. The inflammation has all left my leg and it is entirely healed. I have received so great benefit from

Hood's Sarsaparilla

that I concluded to write this voluntary statement." F. J. TEMPLE, Ridgeway, Mich.

"I take Hood's Sarsaparilla as a tonic when I get all run down, and find it does me a great deal of good." Mrs. S. G. TUTTS, Mainville, Ohio.

HOOD'S PILLS—Invigorate the liver, regulate the bowels. Effective, but gentle. Price 25c.

Our Farm.

SOME GARDEN RESULTS IN 1891.

BY JOSEPH.

NEW EGG-PLANT.—One of my kind friends of the great FARM AND FIRESIDE family sent me, last winter, some egg-plant seed labeled, "Raynor's Thornless." The letter accompanying it, in which he described this as a valuable sort for the northern grower, has been mislaid. I find the new sort so valuable that I ask Mr. Raynor to communicate with me, giving me his address. In the greater part of New York state, and in other sections of the same latitude, it is not an easy task to grow the large varieties like New York Purple, etc. In New Jersey I had good success with the large sorts, as long as I could manage to save the plants from the greed of potato-beetles. For a few years I have had to content myself with the Early Long Purple, and especially the Japanese egg-plant. These sorts can be easily grown here—the Japanese, in fact, as easily as tomatoes; but the fruit, while useful for the home garden, is too small for market. The Japanese sorts (one with fruit of egg shape, and another with rather long fruit, almost like Early Long Purple) are quite productive. I often had eight or ten of these eggs on one plant. The plants are large and bushy, branching freely, and have small, dark-colored leaves and woody stems of a bluish-purple color. Plants can be grown with no more heat than required for growing tomato plants.

Now comes this Raynor's Thornless. The plant and fruit resemble Large New York Purple. The fruit is large and solid, good specimens being about eight inches long by seven inches wide. Of course, one plant bears but two or three such specimens. The plant, like that of the Japanese varieties, is entirely thornless. The great value of the plant for our northern sections, however, is in its greater hardiness, compared with the ordinary large varieties. Seed germinates freely in moderate heat, and the plants start with great vigor, and produce a crop quite early. We can easily grow the plants in our ordinary tomato hot-beds and frames. Market gardeners at the North who have sale for egg-plants will find this exactly the variety they will want. The fruit contains but few seeds.

THE FREEMAN POTATO.—I have done but very little in potatoes for a year or two. Most of my new seedlings are a thing of the past. Of a large number of those raised in 1889-1890, less than half a dozen have been retained for further trial, and only one or two will probably be planted again after next season. Among the seedlings of this year I find almost every imaginable potato color represented. Some are white, some pink, some red, some blue, black, etc. A few tubers of each promising seedling are saved, and will be planted for a year or two, and in the end all will probably be thrown aside as worthless. I believe that we cannot be prompt enough in discarding seedling varieties just as soon as they show a serious fault. Only those that give an unusual combination of strong points should be held for further trial. The mistake so often made by originators of new things is in not being discriminating enough. No prejudice in favor of one's own seedlings should stand in the way of an early destruction of seedlings that are not of unusual merit. The public should be protected against this flood of novelties that in the end prove no better than things we already possess.

Last year I spoke of the Freeman potato as one of great merit. It was introduced chiefly on the strength of my recommendation. I had grown it but one season, and then on a very small scale. The fear that I might possibly have been too hasty and instrumental in bringing out a variety of only ordinary value is now dispelled as the reports from those who have grown it come in. I am now sure it is a good variety—beautiful, productive and fine for the table. So good authorities as Mr. T. B. Terry, of Ohio, and J. M. Smith, of Wisconsin, call it "a wonderful potato." In vigor of growth and productiveness for an early sort, as also in table quality, we have none to equal it. The Early Ohio is yet at the head as the earliest good

potato. I believe the Freeman is at least a week later, coming to maturity at about the same time as Early Rose and Hebron.

NEW TOMATOES.—A number of very good sorts were brought out again last spring, and are now ready for distribution. Among them we have Thorburn's Long Keeper, a fine, smooth, solid variety of medium size and a dark purple color. It is a beauty, ripening perfectly and evenly, and it keeps well after maturity. Potomac is a strong-growing variety and a great yielder of large-sized fruit that is quite solid, ripens up evenly, and giving the bulk of the crop pretty much at a few pickings. Mr. Joseph Harris, to whom I am indebted for a few seeds for testing, recommends it especially as a canning tomato, and this with very good reason. Bon Ton and Ithaca also make thrifty plants, give plenty of fruit, and this of good color and size, smooth, evenly ripening and generally good. Still, we now have so many good sorts I am unable to say whether they will crowd out our older favorites, like Matchless, etc. We have now, also, a red Potato Leaf, which differs from the older Potato Leaf only in color of fruit. It is a fine sort, both for market and home use, and the fruit ripens up just as nicely and evenly as that of the purple variety.

Henderson's No. 400 I have mentioned on a former occasion. Some of my plants were grown from the tip ends of plants that were spoiled in the mails. A handful of cotton batting was wrapped around their lower end, placed in a tumbler and soaked full of water. Roots soon started from these cuttings, and the latter were planted at once in open ground and grew very nicely. They were pruned to single stem and trained to a pole or stake about eight feet high, and under the stimulus of rich soil and a few doses of liquid manure or suds, they reached the top of the pole in good season, and turning downwards, grew two feet more, thus making a growth of ten feet. They also set fruit freely. The latter is truly of mammoth size, reasonably smooth, and by far the most solid tomato yet introduced. A slice of it looks like a piece of raw beefsteak. The seed cavities are very small, and the seeds so few in number that I think we have now made a great step towards the seedless tomato. Half a dozen of these mammoth specimens, each weighing more than a pound, have given me hardly more than a pinch of seed. Seed must necessarily be high priced. One cluster of three specimens weighed a little over three pounds, and another of only two specimens, even three pounds and four ounces. This is the variety that will give you the vigor of plant required for a "tree tomato," and fruit for the exhibition table.

This variety, by the way, belongs to the same type as the Mansfield's tree tomato, Auntie Dine and Ruby Queen. All have the same characteristics of foliage and fruit—strong growth, heavy, dark-colored foliage, large and very solid fruit. But Henderson's 400 is by far the best among them. It is smoother and still more solid than any of the others, besides having a good color (red), which cannot be said of the others. Unfortunately, it does not ripen up evenly around the stem end. Still, it makes a magnificent show and gives plenty of good fruit when grown to single stem and trained to a tall pole. I shall grow it again.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

RASPBERRIES.

BY J. T. LOVETT.

Read before the American Pomological Society.

Although but few red raspberries of pronounced merit have appeared of late, there are enough black ones to fully supply the deficiency. Among those especially worthy of note may be mentioned the Kansas and Lovett. The former is a blackcap after the style of the Gregg, fully equaling it in size and ripening a week earlier. It is also far more prolific with me, has less bloom upon the fruit and is a freer and stronger grower. It is said to be much hardier. It has been thus far entirely hardy with me; but the Gregg is usually hardy, also, the first years of fruiting.

Palmer is a variety of the Doolittle type. It resembles closely the Souhegan or Tyler, ripening with it, and I have failed to note any property possessed by

it wherein it is superior to that very valuable sort. These remarks apply to the Cromwell and Carman with equal force.

Progress or Pioneer is an improvement upon Souhegan, in some respects, but it is not so early by three or four days. The fruit is identical in size, appearance and quality, but the canes are of much stronger growth and yield nearly double the quantity of fruit upon a given space of land. It also possesses the very desirable property of adhering firmly to the peduncle when fully ripe.

Older is a variety worthy of more than passing notice, being one of the very few entirely distinct blackcaps that have appeared in a long time. In fruit, cane and foliage it is so unlike any other variety as to be noticeable at a glance. In size, it is large to very large, rivaling, though not equaling, the Gregg; is almost destitute of bloom upon the fruit, hence, very black, and although firm, is of superior, rich and high quality. In growth of cane and productiveness it may be compared to the Souhegan. Season, second early, ripening with the Ohio, or with third picking of the Doolittle class. It seems to possess peculiar endurance, suffering less from drought than others, and always vigorous and free from disease.

Thompson's Early Prolific is an early red variety that has proved superior, all things considered, to any I have grown. Were the berries larger and canes of stronger growth, it would approach closely the ideal raspberry for market growing. It is among the earliest to ripen (with the Hansell, etc.), and is prolific. In size, it compares favorably with the Hausell and Brandywine (although smaller than the Marlboro or Cuthbert), and in firmness and brilliant color it nearly or quite equals these two valuable varieties. Its quality is fair to good—better than Brandywine, but inferior to Turner or Cuthbert. In growth of cane it may be compared to the Brandywine; in yield, with Hansell or Turner. It endures the heat of summer well, and has not as yet been injured in winter with me, although I have fruited it several years.

Childs' Japanese wineberry is perhaps worthy of mention. It has been stated that this anomaly is unproductive, but this is an error, judging from its behavior upon my grounds. The cane is of very strong growth and ornamental enough to be worthy a place upon the lawn. The berries, which ripen at the close of the raspberry season, are rather below the average size of red raspberries. They are deep amber in color, tending to the color of sherry, are translucent and sparkle in the sunlight, rendering them very attractive. They are too soft for transportation, and although rich, are too acid to be enjoyed by any except those who are fond of acid fruit. Properly cooked, I have found it exceedingly palatable, and from it pretty and superior jelly can be readily made. The large calices or burrs which enclose each berry until fully ripe, impart to the hand a viscous substance upon the slightest touch, that is decidedly unpleasant. With me it is entirely hardy.

BLACKBERRIES.

It is to be greatly lamented, yet must, I fear, be recognized as a fact, that the trend of this most important member of the small fruit family leads to retrograde. Of the new varieties there are very few that are peers of the Kittatinny, Lawton or Wilson in their palmy days.

Early King is a variety that, however, seems to possess much merit as an early sort, especially for the home garden. In size it is about medium, larger than Snyder, Taylor's Prolific, etc., but smaller than the Wilson. It lacks firmness for long shipment, but is of superior quality and is very hardy. Cane of moderate growth and quite, although not especially, prolific, giving us our first blackberries. It ripens with the Lucretia dewberry and in advance of Early Harvest. It seems strange to me that a variety so desirable in many ways should be so long in becoming popular. I have now had it in bearing at least half a dozen years.

Thompson's Early Mammoth, evidently, is a seedling of Wilson's Early, and very like it in many ways: It is said to be much hardier. With me it has been entirely hardy. Owing to the mildness of the winters the Wilson has also been hardy during the same period.

Minnewaski has with me proved the best substitute for the Kittatinny since we

can no longer successfully fruit the old favorite. The canes are of good growth, fairly prolific, healthy and hardy; berries of good to large size, firm, attractive and excellent. It has not proved especially early, ripening with Snyder and Kittatinny, or ten days after the Wilson.

Lovett's Best, as its name implies, is, taking all things into consideration, the most promising of the new varieties. I must not omit to speak of Childs' Ever-bearing tree blackberry, or Topsy. This I think a hybrid of *Rubus cuneifolius* by *Rubus villosus*, retaining the stout, upright cane and villanous spines of the former and the large fruit of the latter. On ordinarily fertile soil the canes attain a height of three to four feet, are erect, very strong and rigid. It branches freely and is densely covered with rather small foliage of a thick, leathery texture. I have never known it to be attacked by orange rust or any other diseases. It is exceedingly prolific, beginning to ripen late, or the first of August with me, and remaining in fruit from four to six weeks. The berries are of the largest size, rather soft and of good though not high quality. It is not very hardy, its position being between Wilson and Lawton in this regard. In localities where the mercury does not fall below zero it possesses much value for the home garden, but I do not think it would prove profitable to the market grower anywhere, owing especially to its lateness in ripening.

CURRANTS.

But little of interest is to be found among new varieties of the currant. Fay's Prolific is a success with me, and I hear none but good reports of it from any quarter.

North-Star gives promise of being a valuable variety, especially for the market grower. It is with me a fine growing plant, but I have not had it long enough to test it sufficiently to enable me to speak of it in definite terms.

Black Champion is an improvement upon the old Black Naples. Berries are larger and produced in greater abundance. I am told it is of better quality, but to me all the black currants are so repulsive, in both odor and flavor, that I am perfectly willing that the testing of the fruit be performed by somebody else.

The Crandall has, I am pleased to state, some merit for culinary purposes. It is of strong growth, exempt from the attacks of insects and disease, and very prolific; but the fruit is too harsh and austere to be acceptable as a dessert fruit. The berries are exceedingly large, almost equaling in size the Delaware grape, and are decidedly attractive. The claim that a good jelly can be made from it is founded on fact, as I can bear witness.

The Industry gooseberry has not proved the success with me that it has in many other places. In Monroe county, New York, and upon the Hudson river it is giving the greatest satisfaction. I also saw it fruiting in perfection in Atlantic county, New Jersey, the past season. Although the best of the foreign varieties I have yet tasted, it loses its leaves prematurely and fails to ripen its fruit quite as often as it perfects it.

The Dwarf juneberries have given considerable satisfaction in the East. The chief complaint has been that the plants do not yield heavily enough, and that the berries and foliage are attacked by a fungus. The variety known as Success is an improvement upon the type in point of size of fruit, quality and productiveness, and has suffered less from the attacks of fungus than the common Dwarf variety. It has suffered also to a slight extent. I find the juneberry a much better fruit for cauing, pies, etc., than as a dessert fruit. In its natural state it lacks flavor, but when cooked is quite acceptable.

Elcagnus longipes is indeed an interesting fruit. Did it ripen in late autumn instead of July, its value would be greatly enhanced. The bush is of low, spreading habit, densely clothed with pretty foliage, and comes into bearing as quickly as a red currant. Its yield is simply wonderful, the berries being literally crowded upon the underside of the branches. The fruit is borne upon slender stems about an inch and a half long, are of cinnamon color, with numerous small, light gray dots, and about three quarters of an inch long by half an inch in diameter. It is tender and juicy, with one large, long, shapely pointed seed in each berry, but so acid as to render it utterly unfit for use as a dessert fruit, but useful for tarts—in fact, for all the purposes for which the cranberry is used.

Our special offer for November will be found on page 13. It will pay you to read it.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Fungus on Grapes.—L. G. L., Nutwood, Ohio. Your grape-vines are injured by a fungus, probably by what is known as anthracnose. It may be prevented and the foliage kept clean by applying fungicides to it several times during the season, commencing early in the spring. The Bordeaux mixture is a good one to use, and so is the ammoniacal carbonate of copper.

Strawberries in Hills or Matted Rows.—**Salt Hay for Mulch.**—T. A. M., Harwichport, Mass. The largest crops are all grown on the matted row system, and only very little fruit is grown in hills. Generally, the best fruit is got from plants grown in hills, but where the matted rows are thinned out so the plants have plenty of room to develop, they produce nearly as fine fruit as when grown in hills, and more of it. A few varieties seem to be especially adapted to hill culture.—Salt hay is a most excellent mulch for strawberries and will keep them clean and the soil moist. The more of it you can work in among the plants the better. The best time to set the strawberry plants is in the spring.

Quince and Pear from Cuttings.—S. P. S., Sulphur Springs, Ala. The quince will grow quite readily from cuttings, and the Keiffer and LeConte pear may be grown the same way, but most other varieties of pears are best grown by grafting or budding. The cuttings should be made in the fall of the year, after the wood is well matured. Make them of the new wood, about eight inches long, and set out six inches deep in well-drained, retentive soil, and they should be well calloused and perhaps rooted by spring in your section. At the North, pear cuttings do not root well unless great care is taken with them, and quince cuttings are generally grafted on short pieces of apple roots, which act as nurse roots until the cuttings send out roots of their own. These apple roots are generally broken off at the end of the first year, when the stock is transplanted.

Leaf-miners.—F. H. H., Saco, Me. The raspberry leaves received are injured by the leaf-miner. It is found occasionally in raspberry and blackberry leaves, but I never knew of its doing serious injury. I had them quite abundantly on some blackberry bushes last year, but have not seen any this season. The eggs from which the caterpillars hatch are laid on the surface of the leaf in early summer, and the larvæ eat through the epidermis of the leaf as soon as hatched, and commence to mine out the tissue of the leaf between the upper and lower skins. The leaf-miners either pass the winter in the leaf or fall to the ground and remain in the dead leaves or trimmings. **Remedies.**—The leaves may be carefully watched and poison applied as soon as the egg hatches and while the larvæ are on the outside of the skin. The infested leaves may be gathered and burned, and when the pest is abundant, all the rubbish on the plantation should be gathered together and burned in the autumn.

Plums Rotting.—M. D. H. The disease affecting your plums is known as *moitulia*. It attacks peaches and cherries as well as plums. The fungus (*Moitulia fructigena*) lives over the winter in the fruit it has destroyed in summer, and perhaps sometimes in the twigs of the trees, as these are sometimes affected with it and appear as if blighted. The proper treatment is to destroy by burning or burying deeply in the soil all the rotted fruit, whether on the trees or not. Owing to the rapid development of this fungus, and the fact that its presence does not become known until the mold (spores) appears on the fruit, at which time it is reproducing itself, little is generally accomplished by direct treatment. Its spread may be checked after the mold appears by the application of flowers of sulphur. Some experiments have been made where the fruit was saved by spraying with the ammoniacal solution of carbonate of copper, as recommended for the downy mildew of the grape, and it is the treatment I believe most certain. But all the rotted fruit must certainly be destroyed, and the spraying must be done before any sign is seen of the mold. Like most other fungi, it is most prevalent during or after warm, moist weather.

Floral Park and Kelsey Plums.—F. L. H., San Antonio, Tex. I do not know much about Floral Park plum, except that it is a novelty and very little known. I have never seen it in fruit. The Kelsey plum is generally successful through the South, but I get some reports from growers who complain that it drops badly, and that it does not do well when worked on the peach. I consider the Eleagnus longipes an inferior fruit, and I think it not likely to be much grown in the future. It is productive, but the fruit is acid and rather unpalatable, though it makes a good jelly. The Pepino, or "melon shrub or pear," has not succeeded as well as was expected. It was supposed to be adapted to all the middle and southern states. Much success in growing it has only been attained in a few places in Florida and California. The Japan vineberry is an acid fruit, somewhat resembling our raspberry, but quite distinct in plant from anything we have. From what I have seen and can learn of it, I think it will not be any decided addition to the list of fruits. It is

generally a shy bearer, makes a good jelly, but is too acid to be eaten raw. All its merits, together with great productiveness, we have in the red currant. The Golden Russet pear is a newly-introduced novelty. It is highly spoken of as regards its hardness, freedom from blight and reliability, but the quality I understand to be very inferior. We should be very glad to hear from those who have had much experience with these fruits.

Scales on Trees.—L. B. R., Keeseville, N. Y., writes: "From early childhood I have often noticed little, hard spots on the bodies and large branches of apple-trees, about one eighth of an inch long, resembling somewhat the form of a small maggot sticking close to the bark, as if cemented, and often close and thick. I think they often remain so for years. Will they do much damage, and how can they be removed without injury to the tree? They must be the dwelling of some insect."

REPLY:—You probably refer to the shells of some of the scale insects (*coccidæ*). One kind is found on the red oaks in great abundance in some localities. The scales are really the shells of the insects which have died after apparently changing entirely to eggs. These eggs hatch and the young crawl out under the edges and are quite lively for a short time; but after they once attach themselves they are no longer active. A similar scale affects many greenhouse plants, and cochineal dye is made from a similar insect that attacks some of the cacti.

Gooseberry Culture.—R. C. S., Carroll county, Md. Plant Champion, Downing, Industry and Houghton Seedling. The Champion is very promising. The Houghton is reliable, very productive and a good shipper, but too small, yet they are generally profitable. Plant in the fall. The gooseberry starts so early that it is apt to get a set-back when transplanted in the spring. Pruning is of great importance, and most people fail from not pruning enough. A good rule is to thin so that the branches are six inches apart, and not more than from four to eight stalks should be allowed to grow in a hill. The new growth should be cut back from one quarter to one half the season's growth. Unless pruned annually the fruit will grow smaller from year to year. Prune in late autumn, or during mild days in winter. Cultivate early and often, and use much stable manure. If land is dry, the plants should be mulched heavily. Set plants so as to allow plenty of room to work between them. About five feet apart, in rows seven feet apart, is a good way to plant them.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A LARGE APPLE-TREE.—Christopher Sbealer, of Berks county, Pa., gives us the dimensions of an apple-tree still growing in that county. Girth above the root buttresses, 16 feet 4 inches; just below the limbs, 16 feet. Smallest girth of trunk, 15 feet 8 inches. It has seven main branches, the largest of which is 7 feet 3 inches in circumference. It is estimated to be two hundred years old, and is said to have borne as high as a hundred bushels of apples in a single season.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

BEST WAY TO WINTER CELERY, ETC.—Cord it up, root to root, with tops considerably the highest, then cover with a wet fabric. It is now an easy matter to wet the roots at any time without wetting the tops. Keep all the dirt on the roots possible, and pack roots snugly together. It can be done in a large box or on the cellar floor.

Uncle, if you are going to husk corn this fall, take your chair and wheelbarrow with you, tip the shock into the barrow, place your chair between the handles of the harrow and take it easy; set the basket at the top of shock, instead of butts, as the common custom is, then as soon as you touch an ear, it is in position for proceedings. If the basket is at the butt of shock it necessitates first straightening the ear from the stalk, and it is liable to break it loose.

If you don't know how to tie a sailor's bowline, get some one to teach you; there is millions in it to any farmer; no matter how wet the rope may be or how taut it has been drawn, a child can easily untie it, and it never becomes untied by accident.

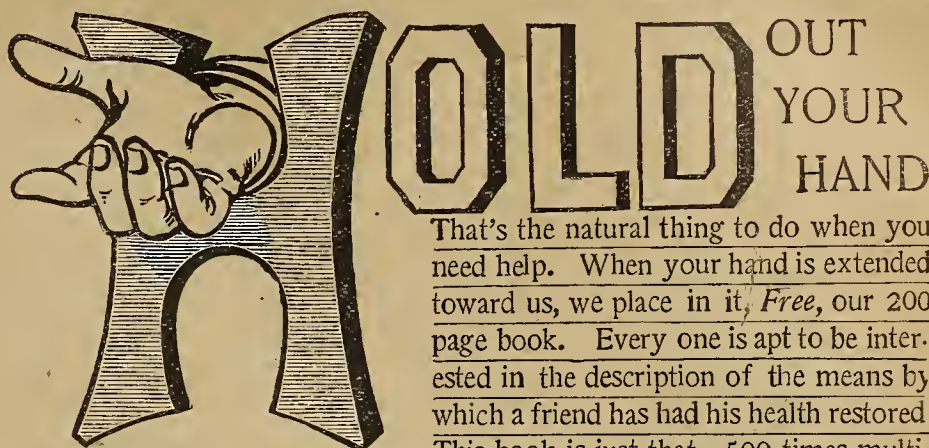
New York.

E. ALDRICH.

FROM OREGON.—Lane county is situated about the center of the north and south line of the state, and extends from the summit of the Cascade mountains west to the Pacific ocean. The face of the country is mostly hills and mountains, with small valleys. It is a good country, but not a paradise. A large amount of the land is good, and also a great quantity worthless. Grain grows well on the prairie, and fruit and vegetables in abundance on the river bottoms. The climate is warm and wet in winter and cool and dry in summer, making crops mature late. It is a poor country to come to with the idea of working for wages, but a good place to make a living if a person is prepared to work for themselves. Eugene, the county-seat, is a town of about one thousand inhabitants, and a fine place. It is situated near the head of the Willamette valley. Crops are all abundant this year, and prices fair. Wheat, 75 cents; oats, 25 cents; potatoes, 25 cents per bushel; eggs, 27 cents per dozen; butter, 35 cents per pound. Apples very cheap. Groceries and dry goods range higher than in the East; clothing as cheap; stoves very high. Can anybody tell which is the best variety of onion to raise in this climate? Potatoes grow like weeds on bottom land, and keep in the ground all winter.

Eugene, Oregon.

S. B. L.

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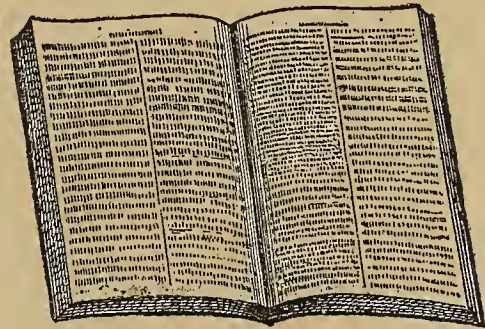
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WHERE THE DAY BEGINS.

Where does the day begin? where may it be?
Not on the mountain tops, not on the sea!
Somewhere beyond them, somewhere before them,
Shines the sweet light, ere the morning breaks o'er them.

Peak that is highest, island that liest
Farthest away in the purple-rimmed sea,
Where does the day begin? where may it be?

Out of the bosom of God comes the day,
Flood of his tenderness, nothing can stay!
Love that, out-springing, sets the world singing,
Steeple ablaze, and the silver bells ringing!
Infinite motion of infinite ocean—
Light but the symbol that broadens for aye,
Out of the bosom of God comes the day!

—*Youth's Companion.*

POEMS UNWRITTEN.

There are poems unwritten, and songs unsung,
Sweeter than any that ever were heard—
Poems that wait for an angel tongue,
Songs that but long for a Paradise bird.

Poems that ripple through lowliest lives—
Poems unnoted and hidden away
Down in the souls where the beautiful thrives,
Sweetly as flowers in the air of the May.

Poems that only the angels above us,
Looking down deep in our hearts may behold—
Felt, though unseen, by the beings who love us
Written on lives as in letters of gold.

ONE PENNY.

BY EVA BEST.

HAILING the street-car, I hurried on board, and in another ten seconds was being hauled, along with a carful of fellow-suburbanites, over the gritty rails that led from the city's limits to its busy centers.

People from the same suburbs usually possess a passing acquaintanceship with those whom they meet daily in the public conveyances, and I had nodded to this, that and the other fellow-passenger and was about to open the ball of a subdued conversation with my next neighbor, when the driver, just as we had entered the hither end of the long iron bridge that spans our historic river, gave the brakes a twist, and the car stopped in order to permit a richly dressed woman to enter the car and become one of us. We knew who the new-comer was, everyone of us, but as it happened, we were none of us on speaking terms with this fair neighbor, who had but recently made our suburbs her home. As the car again started on its way she settled her rich and elegant draperies about her and sank into a seat vacated for her comfort by a gentleman aboard.

A pocket-book of soft leather was opened by the perfectly gloved hands, and from a goodly store of gold and silver coins, a vulgar nickel was extracted and was about to be placed in the hand of a gentleman nearest the fare-box, when there was a sound of a dropped piece of metal, and a dingy little penny was seen to roll across the floor of the car, and, with that exasperating exhibition which cunning things inanimate have so often been known to manifest, hide itself quite from view.

To our astonishment, down went my lady's hands to grope for it upon the dirty floor—to grope for it in vain. With an expression upon her face that surprised us who had seen that it was but a penny that had dropped, and who knew that the loser of the coin paid larger taxes than any other woman in our pretty wealthy community, that she possessed houses and lands galore, and that her income was a notoriously splendid one, she begged that we would all stand up and allow her to see if, by any chance, the missing coin had rolled under our feet.

We women, with smiles that we took no particular pains to conceal, arose and, grasping the leathern straps above our heads, stood swaying backward and forward as the car pitched down the declivity leading from the pier, while the five gentlemen aboard assisted the fair bondholder to look for the penny.

After a lengthy search, a bumping of heads, a crushing of hats and a soiling of clean digits in dusty corners, the gentlemen, red-faced and perspiring, conscious of being slyly laughed at by all the members of the fair sex aboard—save and except the loser of the penny—gave up the search, and we all, with sighs of relief, resumed our seats upon the cushions.

"Never mind," said the cause of all our discomfort, "I shall go on to the car-stables, and the driver can then turn the slats over. We shall be sure to find it. Thank you all so much."

It was difficult to reconcile the gentle, cultured voices speaking words of sincere courtesy with the evidence of so pitiful an exhibition of avarice as that we had just witnessed, and more than one of us, after the polite words were spoken, and we, to all intents and purposes, seemed to have been forgotten altogether, stole furtive glances at our wealthy fellow-passenger, noting the elegance of her jeweled bonnet, the exquisite quality of the laces of her wrap, the beauty of the texture of her gown. But, more than all, we noticed the expressive features, that told us her thoughts were fixed upon the copper piece she had had the misfortune to drop, and since she ignored us utterly, smiles that were not the pleasant

est to look upon wreathed the faces that her fellow-passengers, now and again, turned toward her.

A disdainful uplifting of the nostrils of one, the arching of the black brows of another, the scornful curl of a third person's lips and amused glances from all showed with what contempt was held her exhibition of penuriousness.

One by one the passengers left the car as it gained the uptown streets, I, myself, being the last to leave our vexed friend to go upon her pilgrimage to the car-stables, yet a good two miles away.

It chanced, upon returning home, that I boarded the same car that had taken me into the city, and when we reached the bridge again and started to recross it, I found myself its solitary occupant. Naturally, I grew to dwelling upon the lost penny, and, being intensely feminine, my curiosity mastered my every other emotion, and as the driver entered the car to lower a blind upon the sunny side of it, I ventured, with a smile which had for its ingredients equal parts of amusement and disdain, to ask our Jehu if the lady had found her penny.

Fully expecting to see a reflection of my grin upon his honest countenance, I awaited his reply. To my surprise, he turned a serious face toward me, and the following was his answer, gravely given:

"Yes, ma'am, I found the penny for her. I turned over the slats as she asked me to do, and exactly under the place where the two floor slats come together I found it. She gave a queer sort of a sound when she took it—more a cry than anything else, ma'am—and pressed the cent to her lips, while the tears ran down her face. Then seeing me looking at her a bit curiously—which I couldn't have helped doing to save me, ma'am—she sits right down here close to the open door where I were driving, and, as we started toward the city again, she tells me why this little copper was so precious to her. Seems it was the first penny her little son, who is dead, ever owned, and he gave it to her to keep for him, and—and"—with a little tremble in the gruff voice—"she's keeping it. She gave me this for finding it, ma'am," and the driver held up for my inspection a yellow disk which I knew to be five dollars in gold.—*Detroit Free Press.*

JUSTICE TO UNCLE JERRY.

The solemn purpose of this article is to rebuke a disposition that is manifested by certain flippant writers for the press and other irreverent persons, to ventilate their cheap wit at the expense of the present secretary of agriculture. Their most common sin is to contract his old-fashioned, scriptural name of Jeremiah, and speak of him as "Uncle Jerry." This, however, could be forgiven. Such nicknames are terms of endearment, and almost invariably represent a genuine fondness for their objects. He was not far from first in the hearts of his countrymen, whom they called "Old Abe."

But undue license with his name is by no means the only grievance of which General Rusk might complain—though, as a matter of fact, he doesn't. The last congress made an appropriation for certain experiments to be conducted by the Department of Agriculture to ascertain if rain might not be induced artificially by the explosion of balloons. Straightway the pert paragraphers proceed to charge the secretary with trying to blast rainstorms out of the sky. The transfer of the weather bureau to his department has given the funny people a great opportunity, and they have even gone so far as to accuse him of dispensing and distributing weather with a view to assisting certain aspirations which he is slanderously charged with entertaining.

We might have stood all this; but patience ceases to be a virtue when we read in the *Atlanta Constitution* that the secretary of agriculture "doesn't know anything about farming." This is too much, the truth being that there is little about farming that he doesn't know. He has been a stage driver, a tavern keeper, a member of the state legislature, a colonel in the army, a member of congress, governor and cabinet minister, but all the while he has been and is a farmer. Not a political farmer, like Senator Peffer, but a "sure-enough" tiller of the soil; not perhaps learned in the chemical constituents of composts, but skilled to guide the plow between the rows of nodding corn and to chase the acute scythe across the dew-jeweled meadow. Or words to that effect.

The Democratic press may exercise to the utmost limit its prerogative of criticism upon the administration, but it must not deny that the secretary of agriculture is an agriculturist.—*Helena Herald.*

NAVAL VESSELS.

Engineer, the English technical journal, expresses great admiration for the armored cruiser, New York, now building for the United States navy. "Had the same system been applied to the *Barfleur*," it says, "we might have had a ship that could bring the New York to action and beat her. At present we have nothing that can do this, our only two ships of superior speed being, though larger, far inferior in armament and protection. Nor is the New York the only foreign ship of which this is true. No. 12 will probably be under all circumstances a knot faster than the *Blake*, and could thus prey upon our commerce without let or hindrance."

COUNTRY ROADS AND HIGHWAYS.

In *Lippincott's* for September, John Gilmer Speed speaks feelingly, in "Country Roads and Highways," of the consummate stupidity and neglect which Americans have shown in treating this very important subject. Truly it would be hard to find any one more common instance of the recklessness and want of foresight, fostered by the peculiar rapidity of our evolution into a great nation, than is seen in the state of the highways in numerous portions of the United States. To be sure, before we had time to perfect the highway for commercial travel we had the railroad.

Mr. Speed goes so far as to say that our wretched country roads are the "chief cause of the lack of prosperity among our farmers. They have never had good roads, nor did their fathers and grandfathers.

"Fortunately, however, many of the best and most active men in the country are keenly alive to the importance of improving our country roads, and in several states such laws have been passed as will enable any enterprising county to build good, hard macadam or Telford roads. In several states an effort is being made to have each state build the roads in the first place, and, for a time at least, maintain them. The governor of New York and the strong state society devoted to road improvement, are in favor of the state building two roads across each county, and the governor, in his recent message, advocates the creation of a public state debt for this purpose."

Several other states have shown some activity and interest in the better control of roads, and it would seem that there are hopes that we shall not be stuck in the mud forever. Mr. Speed gives a description of the method of road improvement in his own New Jersey township, which is pretty near typical. "When the farmers have finished their spring ploughing and planting, they go out on a kind of picnic frolic on the road. They plough up the grass along the side of the road and put the sods and the muck from the ditches into the center of the road, and very carefully throw all the small stones up against the fences on either side. I need not tell what the consequence of this is. When the weather is wet the roads are six inches deep with a heavy and adhesive mud; when the weather is dry, as it is apt to be in summer, the roads are fetlock deep in dust."

One of the more comprehensive schemes for reform in the building and management of roads has been put forward by the engineer and inventor, General Roy Armstrong. He proposes that the United States government shall assist the states in the construction of elaborate systems of highways. The money is to be obtained by loans to the states at a small rate of interest.

WITHOUT ENEMIES.

To say of a man that he has no enemies is considered high praise; but suppose the remark to be true, what does it prove? Merely that he is negatively exemplary; that he is an amiable person without any force of character. All men who are positively and actively virtuous have many foes. Negative goodness is not a proselyting quality, and, therefore, vice has no quarrel with it. On the other hand as it "thinks no evil," and is of fair report, the energetic reformer accords to it a certain measure of respect while he regrets its inefficiency. Hence, your negative Christian may live and die "without an enemy in the world." Not so the energetic and determined opponent of evil, who believes that whatever is wrong ought to be crushed. He makes enemies at every step, for he is essentially a fighting character. He is not content to stand on the defensive, repelling temptation, but assails wickedness on its own ground. If the negatively virtuous have no foes, neither are they likely to have any very warm friends, for there is nothing about them to elicit enthusiasm. For our own part, we would rather have a few staunch, thorough-going friends and many enemies than many lukewarm friends and no enemies at all.

LOVE IN THE HOME LIFE.

We ought not to fear to speak of our love at home. We should get all the tenderness possible into the daily household life. We should make the morning good-bys as we part at the breakfast-table kindly enough for final farewells. Many go out in the morning who never come home at night; therefore we should part, even for a few hours, with kind words, with a lingering pressure of the hand, lest we may never look again into each other's eyes. Tenderness in the home is not a childish weakness; it is one that should be indulged in and cultivated, for it will bring the sweetest returns.

EACH FOR THE OTHER.

A man in a tub was being slowly drawn from the bottom of a deep well, when the men at the top, working the windlass, suddenly stopped. "Haul me up," cried the man, "or I'll cut the rope!" This correctly illustrates the relation between capital and labor, and it matters not which of the interests you place in the tub or at the windlass. To stop the work is to cut the rope. Work at the windlass, for the capitalist in the tub, will bring him to the top, to pay for the labor done and to continue the work until water is reached. Stop the work or cut the rope, and capital is destroyed while labor starves. Outside of forced conditions and removed from the rant of

demagogues, there is no conflict between capital and labor. Neither of these commodities is worth anything until brought into contact with the other. A capitalist may sit down on a pile of gold as large as Pike's Peak and starve to death, and the muscle and brain of millions of laborers are useless when unemployed. But let labor bring bread to the starving capitalist astride his pile of gold and both are profited by the transaction, each having benefited the other by supplying a want.—*Michigan Tradesman.*

NEW YORK PATRIOTISM.

In the "Tar and Tartar" there is an elaborate medley of American patriotic airs at the close of the third act. The leader of the orchestra has arranged them so that the people on the stage sing the "Star Spangled Banner," "Dixie" and "Yankee Doodle" at one time without any discord. There is a tremendous amount of marching and countermarching, and the singers raise the roof with their songs. The arrangement is so popular that four or five encores are demanded every night.

New York audiences are not supposed to be particularly patriotic, and the applause was set down as a tribute to the skill of the musician who had made the arrangement of the songs, until the other night, when some foreigners who were sitting near the stage grew weary of the music and began to hiss. Instantly there was an outburst of cheers and applause which startled the attendants of the house. The song was redemanded three times more, and when the Spaniards got up and left the theatre, the people glared at them in a fashion that surprised me. I had no idea that a New York audience could be wrought up to such a pitch of patriotism.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

FOLLOWED HIS PET TO HIS FATE.

The locomotive which was wrecked Sunday night on the Long Island railroad, at Green-vale, was the heaviest and largest on the road, and has been in charge of engineer Harry Coombs since it was first brought out, three years ago. Sunday was the first time it had been used to haul the night train to Mineola. Owing to the increased traffic on that particular train, engineer Tracy, who had usually had the run, was ordered to take the train out Sunday night with engineer Coombs' locomotive. When Coombs heard of the order he at once telegraphed to the train dispatcher that if his engine was going out, he would run it, as he did not wish to have anybody else on her footboard. Thus it came that Coombs, who never had a Sunday run before, met his death because of devotion to the iron horse he had so long managed.—*New York Herald.*

MARRIAGE AS A LIFE-PRESERVER.

A certain set of philosophers, incapable of feeling affection for any one but themselves, have delighted in sneering at love and marriage and have argued that bachelorhood is the only conservative state. Their theory is not borne out by the statistics of married and single life in modern times, so far, at least, as the masculine gender is concerned. If longevity is desirable, then it is better that we should marry than remain bachelors; for, it appears, that at every age, from twenty to eighty-five, the death-rate of the Beuedicts is very much smaller than that of their unmarried brethren.

Gentlemen who prefer a short life and a merry one to a prolonged lease of matrimonial placidity, will probably agree in opinion with the cynical philosophers.

DO PEARLS GET ILL?

"Do you know that pearls get sick?" said a well-known Atlanta jeweler, yesterday. "They do, and, like babies, they require a change of climate when their health is bad, or else they crumble or die. I knew of a case once where a lady went into a jeweler's with a magnificent set of pearls that were losing their luster and beginning to look dead. 'These pearls are sick,' said the jeweler, upon examining them, 'and unless you take or send them to a decidedly different climate at once, they will become worthless.' They were sent off, and within a month were as bright and pretty again as they had ever been."—*Atlanta Constitution.*

A GREAT TILLER OF THE SOIL.

Darwin used to say that the most powerful worker we know is the earthworm. Without the earthworm we could not live. Earthworms make the soil fertile. According to Darwin's calculations each particle of the earth, to a depth of two feet, is brought up to the surface at least once every hundred years. But this estimate is too low. It has been recently calculated that this renovation of the soil takes place every twenty-seven years. There are from 150 to 200 worms in each square yard of earth, ten inches in depth.

FOR CATARRH

boils,
pimples, eczema, and
loss of appetite,
take that sure
specific,

Ayer's Sarsaparilla
Cures others, will cure you

WHY INVENTORS OFTEN FAIL.

The fact that a very large proportion of patented inventions are a disappointment to their originators, because of their failure to yield profitable return for time and money expended on them, is a subject often discussed by inventors and those who are directly interested in their work. It is probable that in no other field of human effort are there so many bitter disappointments, so many crushed hopes and so much of genuine heartache as among inventors. Although thousands of them annually achieve success and enter on a career of prosperity, other thousands find little or no reward; the devices from which they confidently expected affluence have only added to their poverty. Many an intelligent man toils for years, denying himself all the luxuries and most of the comforts of life, to bring out an invention seemingly full of promise, but destined to utter failure. The reasons for this extended area of disappointment are not very numerous nor hard to find. First among them is insufficiency of practical knowledge on the part of the inventor. For example, a man who knows nothing of the practical work of steam engineering may invent and patent a device in that line which will appear to him, and other non-professionals, to be a great advance on existing methods for generating or utilizing steam, but which will be condemned by the most competent judges. In all kinds of machinery the same cause is a prolific source of disappointment. The thing invented may be very ingenious, may have cost a vast deal of mental labor and may attest the intellectual superiority of the inventor; but if it be deficient in practical utility, if its introduction will not be profitable to those for whom it is intended, it goes to the lumber-yard of oblivion. Persons who are utterly ignorant of gunnery frequently invent something in that line, but they very rarely attain success. The same rule holds good in all the industrial arts, including agriculture, mining, manufactures, ship-building and railroading. Brilliance of intellect and originality in conception are offset by lack of practical knowledge. Another reason why failure is so frequently encountered is lack of capital to perfect, construct and demonstrate. Many inventions of great value are lying dormant because a good deal of money would be required to show the world what they are and what advantages they possess. This is especially true of inventions that menace great interests. When a patent threatens annihilation of vast values, when it proposes to sweep away plants that represent millions of dollars, capital hesitates to develop it, for its introduction means a fight to the death between gigantic conflicting interests.

In catering to the demands of fashion, elegance and luxury, there are many inventions brought out that do not pay, because there is not and cannot be a large demand for them. The best element of success in a patent is adaptation to a universal or general want. To do some simple thing that is done by the masses, and to do it cheaper and better than before, is to succeed. To furnish healthful and innocent amusement in a new and attractive way, and to do it at small cost, is to put money in your purse. Anything that the people will recognize as meeting a want tastefully and cheaply will find purchasers. Some of the most profitable patents—paying the best in proportion to the time and money expended—have been the simplest things, so simple that almost everybody, on seeing one of them, wonders why he or she did not think of it long ago.—*Inventive Age.*

JENNY LIND.

Jenny Lind, the woman, was greater than Jenny Lind, the singer. "I would rather hear Jenny talk than sing, wonderful as it is," wrote Mrs. Stanley, the wife of the bishop of Norwich, in whose palace the great singer was a guest while in that city. The bishop's son, subsequently Dean Stanley, who had no "ear for music" and on whom, therefore, her singing was wholly lost, wrote that she had "the manners of a princess with the simplicity of a child, and the goodness of an angel. Her character showed itself," he added, "through a thousand traits of humility, gentleness, thoughtfulness, wisdom, piety."

She looked upon her natural faculty as a gift of God, and never sang without reflecting that it might be for the last time.

"It has been continued to me from year to year for the good of others."

This feeling was no fine sentiment, but a religious principle. While she was the bishop's guest she begged Mrs. Stanley to allow her to take three of the maids to a concert where she was to sing.

At a service in the cathedral she was moved to tears by the singing of the boy choristers, and had places reserved for them at her concert the next morning. When she came on the platform she greeted them with a smile of recognition, which the boys never forgot.

She gave to charitable objects thousands of pounds gained by her wonderful voice. While singing in Copenhagen, such was the excitement that court and town begged her to give them one more day of song. A gentleman of musical culture had, with his wife, anxiously looked forward to her visit. When she came he was on a sick-bed. Jenny Lind heard of his desire, and found time to go to his house and sing to him and his wife.

When she went to London, Mendelssohn asked her to sing to a friend of his, who had long lain upon a bed of sickness. She went and cheered her with songs, the remembrance of which are still cherished by the family.

Again and again, when the opportunity offered for such an act of kindness, she sang to invalids who could not be present at her concerts. The gift of God within her was a trust to be administered for the good of others.

MAKING GOOD ROADS.

The movement which has been well begun in many parts of the country to reform the wagon-roads, which have to a great extent fallen into a sad state of neglect, is likely to be forwarded by the action taken by several agricultural colleges, and particularly by Cornell University, in giving courses of instruction in road-making.

Very often bad roads exist because no one in their vicinity knows how to construct a road. The people often do the best they can; but road-making is a science in itself, belonging properly to the civil engineer's profession.

In Cornell University the professor of civil engineering, the professor of agriculture and the professor of horticulture have been directed to prepare a plan for putting the roads of the university property into the best possible condition; and when the road has been completed, an inscription is to be put upon it, stating how much it cost, what materials were used, and what methods were employed in its construction.

In several agricultural colleges, courses of lectures are given by practical men upon road-making. Farmers' Institutes are taking the matter up, and the people everywhere are learning that much better methods of road-making exist than the old one of heaping up dirt in the middle of the driveway, to be worked into ruts and washed into the ditches again in the course of a year.

AN ORIENTAL HOLIDAY.

The real spring festival, the great flower fete of the year, is that of the cherry blossoms, and Japan in that season is Arcadia. At the end of April, before a leaf bud has opened, every branch and twig of the cherry-tree is covered, hidden and almost weighed down with the masses of blossoms, each flower a miniature hundred-leaf rose, and crowded in thickest rosettes together. Each tree is a pyramid, a cloud of such solidly massed pink petals; and with groves and aisles, and miles of such trees everywhere, the whole empire undergoes a transformation, and the air is couleur de rose.

The newspapers give bulletins from the trees for weeks beforehand, says *Harper's Bazar*, and gravely announce that this prince or that statesman has gone to Kyoto or Nara, or some other point, to view the blooming cherry-trees.

The schools have holidays, the garrisons give extra leave to the soldiers, and all the world goes a-Maying—all Tokio troops to Ueno Park and picnics under the enchanting trees, children and young girls then wearing the rainbow silks and crapes in which the western imagination always clothes the whole race for its every-day wear.

A NOVEL SPOON-CASE.

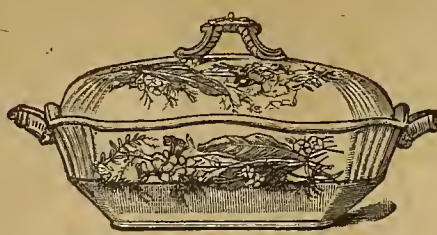
A case to hold these little treasures that I have lately seen, is so pretty, dainty and, withal, so unique, that I cannot forbear a description. For a case holding a half dozen spoons, cut a piece of chamois skin twelve by nine inches. Pink the edges and across the narrow way put two strips of chamois, pinked on each edge, an inch apart. At regular intervals make little divisions, caught in place by bright silk twist to hold the spoons to position.

With gold, paint the names of the cities in fancy lettering above and below the straps. Decorate the outside with discs, half moons, spider-webs and irregular lines. Fold the case together and mid way on each side punch a hole through both thicknesses of chamois, through which run a tiny gold cord with golden tassels attached. Fold together and tie.

Chamois skin is an excellent material in which to preserve the natural luster and brightness of the silver, and makes a lovely, soft case in which to exhibit to admiring friends the little gold-lined beauties.

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Our Household.

WHY I LEFT THE FARM.

"You've been a good boy, Jim, good as kin be; There's that speckled calf—do you see him? Well, he's a Christmas gift for you, Jim. He's not been doin' well this fall; He's got so he won't come when I call— But you may have him for a Christmas gift; Go fetch him in 'fore he goes on the lift." Well, I took that calf and I brought him in, Though he was little but bones and skin. I shelled him corn and I warmed him milk, And by spring I had him as fine as silk. I turned him out in the spring to grass, And he'd always come when he'd see me pass. I rubbed him and loved him, and he loved me; Why, the way he showed it anybody could see. He'd do anything I'd tell him to; He'd gee and haw—anything a calf could do. And he grew—well you never saw the beat; Why, he got too fat to stand on his feet. Of course, he was mine—they all knew that; Mother said that was why he got so fat. The neighbors knew it, and asked me: "Jim, What are you going to do with him?" I didn't know, I loved him so; I thought'd kill me to see him go To be killed for beef. But I didn't say A word about it. At last one day When I had been workin' a-savin' logs, And shuckin' corn for the fattenin' hogs, When I came home and went to see My big fat steer, where could he be? His stall was empty, dear, oh, dear! What has become of my big fat steer? Says father, a-smilin'—I can see him yet, That smile o' his'n I can never forget—"Well, Jimmie, if it will be any relief, An' put a stop to your foolish grief, I sold him to-day for a Christmas beef. Ha! ha! You know he was a Christmas gift, And I tell you he gave me a right smart lift On that piece o' land just over the way That you know I bought last Christmas day. I've spent the money I got for him, But I'll give you a calf in the mornin', Jim." That was all he said. I went to bed, But not to sleep, for through my head Ran thoughts of how he had treated me, And nothing better ahead could I see. I rolled and tumbled the most of the night, Got up, left home before it was light. My heart was broke, which was worse than your arm, And that is the reason I left the farm.

—Selected.

KITCHEN HELPS.

WAIT till I get to plauning houses, mamma, dear; I'm going to have the most beautiful kitchens in them!"

"I wish I could live in one of them, dear; but it has always been my lot to have such a terrible gloomy, ugly, inconvenient kitchen."

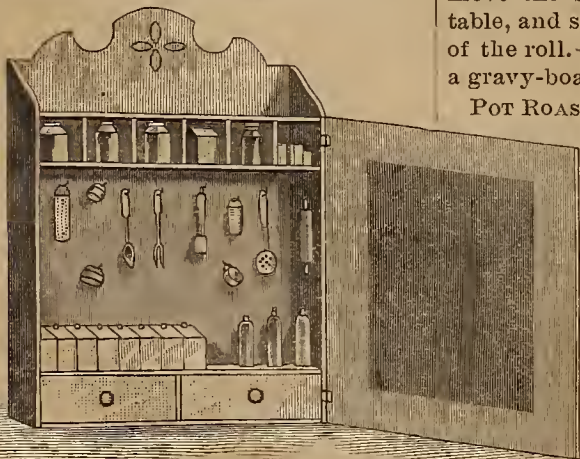
I think if I was building, I'd build the kitchen first, and if I had anything left for the rest of the house I'd put it up; if not, I'd get along without it, for I get so little time to even sit down in the pretty part of the house.

While I was at Chautauqua this summer I saw such a nice convenience for drying the dishes instead of wiping them.

Washed nicely and stacked in this drainer, and scalding water poured over them, you can let them sit till the next meal, and they will be shinier and brighter than the cleanest towel will make them.

We made ourselves the happy possessor of one, and since then the midget, who always had to wipe the dishes as her share of work, has been detailed for a more congenial job.

With natural gas in our houses, the boys' job of splitting kindling and getting out the ashes has got to be a thing of the past, but the everlasting dish problem



KITCHEN CUPBOARD.

hasn't been entirely settled for the girls yet; but this certainly settles the biggest half.

Don't persist in thinking the only way is the way of fifty years ago; simplify your work as much as possible, for there

is enough of it to do in any house without nursing part of it to keep it longer.

Very many steps can be saved by condensing things into smaller spaces. To have things in reaching distance saves a great many steps, and every housekeeper should study to do that in all her work.

The miles of ground the house mother goes over in the performance of her daily tasks will never be known, and only she herself finds it out when health and strength are gone.

With an arrangement like our illustration, which any one could have hung above or beside the table, many minutes could be saved, and if the work can be accomplished with greater dispatch, that much more time could be taken for rest.

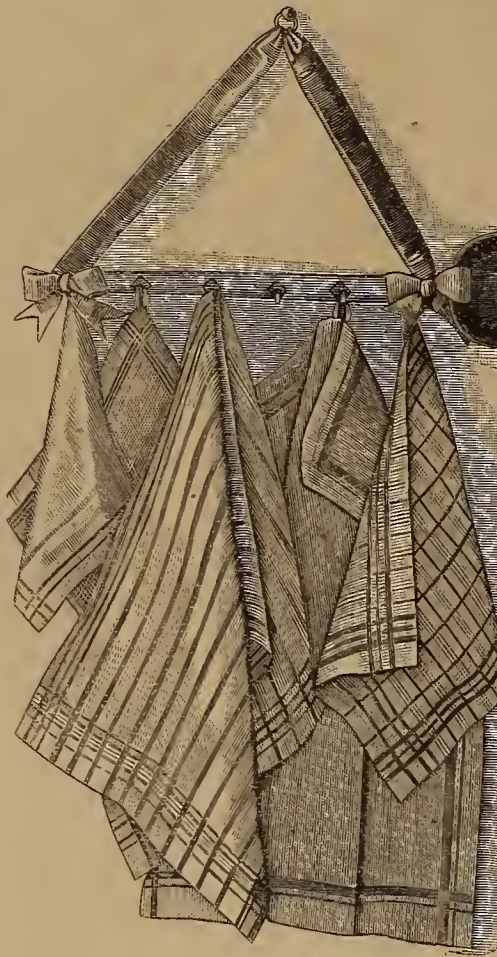
Towels of various sorts are very necessary in the kitchen.

A large paddle, like our illustration, with hooks all along the handle, hung in a convenient place, would always be a ready receiver for towels and aprons.

Ah, if we can make our kitchens any more attractive, let us do so, for so many of us have to spend a great deal of our time there. LOUISE LONG CHRISTIE.

HOME TOPICS.

ROLLED STEAK.—The prices of meats of all kinds are unusually high at present, with a prospect of a continuance of these



TOWEL-RACK.

prices, so that it is a good time to learn good ways of cooking the cheaper pieces, instead of buying tenderloin steaks and roasts.

Buy a round steak, cut less than half an inch thick, and have it scored across both ways with a sharp knife. Spread it with a dressing made of bread crumbs, as for turkey. Roll the steak up and bind it firmly into shape with a stout string; lay it in a dripping-pan, pour in a pint of boiling water, turn another pan over it and bake it about two hours. Add a little more boiling water, if necessary, from time to time, and turn the roll over. Remove the string before sending to the table, and serve by slicing across the end of the roll. Serve the thickened gravy in a gravy-boat.

POT ROAST.—Take five or six pounds of beef without bone, a shoulder clod or a piece cut from the round. Set the pot on the stove, and when it is hot, put in the meat, and after a minute or two turn it over; then add a pint of boiling water and half of an onion, cut in fine shreds; cover it closely and set it where it will simmer slowly. Turn the meat occasionally, and after it has cooked an hour, add salt and pepper. A piece of six pounds

should cook about three hours. When it is nearly done, let the water cook off and brown the meat in the pot, or put it in a dripping-pan and let it brown in the oven. Thicken the gravy by stirring in a spoonful of flour, and when it is smooth, add a

teacupful of milk and enough water to make the gravy. Let it boil up once, and serve with the meat.

TABLE-LINEN.—We hear many complaints about table-linen not being as good as that our mothers and grandmothers used; but does it have the same care that they gave it?

Before table-cloths and napkins go into the wash-tub they should be carefully examined, and any that are stained should be put in a tub by themselves, and boiling water poured over them. Let them stand in this until the water is cool enough to wring them with the hands. No washing-soda or anything of the kind should be used; but a little borax may be added to the water in which they are washed.

When the table-cloths and napkins are put through the wringer and allowed to hang on the line until perfectly dry, it is almost impossible to iron all these wrinkles out. Better wring them by hand, if they are not wrung dry, and shake out well before hanging on the line. Take them down while still damp, fold them evenly and roll tightly; then wrap in a damp towel until you are ready to iron. Use heavy irons, and go over the single cloth first; then fold it in the middle lengthwise and iron again, beginning at the selvage; then fold again,

and so continue until the cloth is folded and done, being ironed until it is dry. Then it will have a fine polish, and the pattern will show distinctly. Napkins should be ironed on both sides, folded evenly and ironed as the cloth was.

HOW SHALL WE DRESS THE BABY?—A physician has answered this question in three words: "Warmly, loosely, lightly." There is no doubt that many children are sacrificed every year because mothers do not recognize the importance of these three requisites in the dress of their children.

The first garment to be put on the baby should be a loosely-knit, ribbed, wool bandage, which should never be tight enough to bind. This is to keep the back and bowels warm, and something of the kind should be worn night and day until the baby has cut his teeth.

The next garment should be a knit woolen shirt, high neck and with long sleeves; then a pinning-blanket, which is a piece of flannel one yard long and three fourths of a yard wide, put on a band like a skirt, fastened in front and open all the way down. This is only worn the first three or four months.

Instead of the usual flannel skirt, make flannel gowns, with long sleeves and high necks, and over these put the muslin dress. On the baby's feet put stockings long enough to come well over the knees, and fasten to the diaper with small safety-pins.

The short clothes of the baby are the same, with the exception of the pinning-blanket, and soft-soled shoes are put on. Do not put any other shoe on the baby until he begins to walk. Also add flannel leglets, which cover the legs to the ankle. They are not put on a band, but are cut like drawers, with the upper part only a narrow strip that runs up the outside of the leg, with a button which buttons through a buttonhole in the Gabriel skirt or gown. In hot weather these are not needed, and the flannel shirt may also be dispensed with, retaining the long-sleeved, high-necked Gabriel, which may then be made of thin flannel.

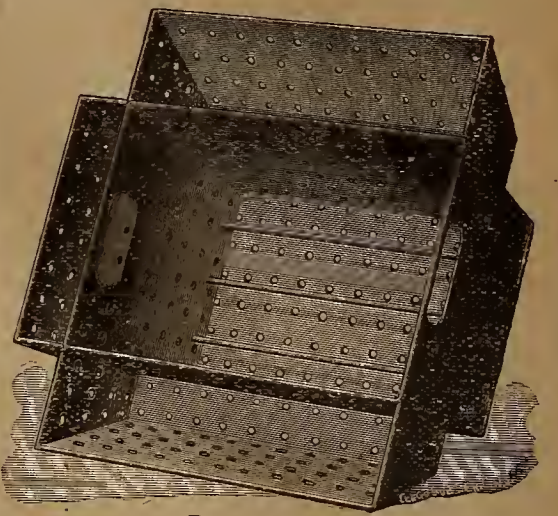
For winter wear, the swan's-down flannel is most admirable, being both light and warm. Watch carefully that baby's clothes do not become too small. He grows so fast, while the flannels will shrink, that before you think the sleeve or arm-hole may bind and cause discomfort.

For older children, follow the same general plan; but after diapers are discarded, instead of the leglet, put on the combination undergarment which clothes the body from wrist to ankle.

Make the night-gowns of flannel, and about fifteen inches below the feet of the child; run a stout tape in the hem, and after the child is asleep, draw this up and tie it. There is plenty of room in this gown, and the child cannot kick itself

naked. It is preferable to the night-drawers with feet, as it leaves the feet and legs together, to keep each other warm.

If every mother would keep in mind the idea that in the dress of children we want warmth, with as little weight as



DISH-DRAINER.

possible, and aim to secure this result, she will not go far wrong.

MAIDA McL.

THE INVALIDS' SOCIETY.

BY AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER.

The first monthly organ of the Shut-In society began its existence January, 1883, more than eight years since, at which time the society numbered about seven hundred members. Prior to this a circular letter, issued quarterly, had served to impart necessary information, names of new members, deaths, etc., but the work had its beginning by one invalid writing a letter to another.

The helping members, those who shared the expense and labor of the enterprise, were known as associates, and as the membership increased the correspondence increased accordingly, making a monthly organ a necessity.

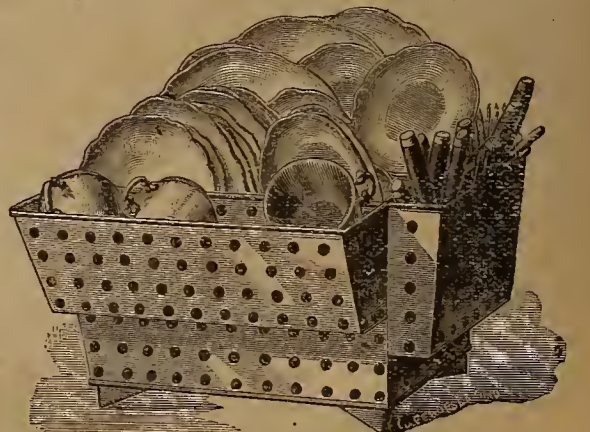
The history of individual cases is at once most pathetic and interesting. The gradual decline from health to a state of recognized invalidism; confinement either to the bed, couch or chair; pain, helplessness, hopelessness; the sense of utter isolation and the conviction that "only one can ever know my state!" Imagine, if you are able, the intense sympathy which springs up spontaneously between such invalids who, by way of correspondence, become acquainted with each others woes.

Among the special attractions of the society are the plans of Scripture reading and singing, by which the invalids are enabled to share in what is known as the "Concert of Prayer," and the daily prayer-meeting at the twilight hour. These "Concert of Prayer" exercises are published monthly in *The Invalids' Visitor*.

Although the society is primarily and especially designed to subserve the spiritual and social needs of its members, very many temporal needs are also relieved. Those who are not only sick but destitute of means are made equally welcome to a share in all its privileges.

Cards of membership are furnished, which serve to render still more tangible the bond which unites members.

To be a sufferer shut in from the world, constitutes one a proper candidate for membership in this society, and the only expense incurred in becoming a member is the annual subscription to its monthly organ, *The Invalids' Visitor*, formerly known as *The Shut-in Visitor*, which is



DISH-DRAINER.

only fifty cents, the editor being one of the associate members, to whom all inquiries should be addressed.

The associate members are not themselves invalids, but being in tender sympathy with the suffering, have volunteered

in this ministry of love for Jesus' sake. The associate fee is one dollar annually, one half of which is designed to furnish the magazine to the destitute. The list of subscribers is not limited to the members and associates, but any others are cordially welcome to subscribe.

A circulating library furnishes a variety



MORNING WALKING-DRESSES, AUGUST, 1890.

of good reading to any who are pleased to pay the requisite postage, and many periodicals are exchanged as well as tracts and clippings, all of which are eagerly welcomed. Even feeble hands may share such ministry, and every service is of double benefit, which both cheers the receiver and blesses the giver.

Those who care for the sick do well when they succeed in turning their attention from themselves and leading them to put forth effort for the well-being of others.

If the readers of this little article will send for a free sample copy of *The Invalids' Visitor*, from its pages they may obtain a clearer understanding of the work of the Invalids' society and the "Door of Hope," which it opens to weary sufferers. Send to the editor,

MRS. KATE SUMNER BURR.

Williamson, Wayne county, N. Y.

NEW FASHIONS VERSUS OLD.

Truly, in regard to the fashions, we may quote that verse from Ecclesiastes which says: "Say not thou, What is the cause that the former days were better than these? for thou dost not inquire wisely concerning this."

Occasionally we hear some one find fault

point of wisdom where we have tried all things and hold fast to the best.

Recently, Mrs. Alfred W. Hunt has written a book about "Our Grandmothers' Gowns," from which we give you a few illustrations. The promenade costume, January, 1814, is thus described by the author:

"A plain cambric robe, with long, gathered sleeve and high, arched collar, trimmed with net, lace or muslin. A Spanish labelled coat of fine orange merino cloth; full epaulette ornaments on the shoulders; the whole lined throughout with wide sarsnet, and trimmed with a raised border of white velvet or swan's-down. A small, provincial bonnet of the same material as the coat, ornamented with a curled ostrich feather. White spotted ermine or chinchilla muff. Gloves, gray or light blue kid. Half-boots of orange-colored jean or velvet."

Apart from the muff, the effect of the costume is graceful; but that violates taste in the extreme of "too much." At first glance, we think the lady cannot be warmly clothed; but on being told that her outer garment is a "Spanish labelled coat of fine orange merino cloth," we feel less solicitous, though it hardly seems sensible to wear a "cambric robe" in mid-winter.

The two ladies together have morning walking-dresses for August. Now, let us see what materials they wear. The costume of the figure to the left is "a round robe of white or jonquil muslin, made a walking

length, with spencer waist and deep, falling lappel, trimmed with lace and edged at the waist to correspond. A bonnet of celestial-blue crape, with jockey or antique front, edged and ornamented with the shell or honeycomb trimming, formed of the same material. Gloves and shoes of pale blue or lemon-colored kid. Necklace and bracelets of the composition pebble, and ear-rings of silver flagree of the hoop form. Hair in full, irregular curls. Quilted parasol of shaded silk with white satin."

The costume of the figure to the right is "a round dress of pea-green or lilac muslin over a white cambric slip; a short, cottage sleeve, plain back and handkerchief front, fastened in a small, tufted bow and ends at the center of the bosom. Provincial bonnet of fine, split straw, or moss straw, with band and full bow of folded sarsnet the color of the dress, terminating in a pendant end on the left side, and finished with a corresponding tassel. A Sardinian mantle of French net, muslin or spotted leno, the corners terminated in a full knot and end. A double, high frill around the throat, edged with scalloped lace, tied in front with a ribbon to suit the robe. Pale York tan gloves, shoes of pea-green and black kid. Chinese parasol of white sarsnet."

What would the natives think if such costumes were seen on the streets these days? In my quiet city a young lady made a sensation by going up town in a tasteful navy-blue suit, with white hat, vest, gloves and shoes; but see, only eighty-three years ago ladies went walking in low-necked dresses and pea-green shoes!

KATE KAUFFMAN.

POTATO SOUFFLE.
Boil four good-sized potatoes and press them through a colander or sieve; season with half a cupful of sweet milk, a large spoonful of butter and pepper and salt; beat well, then add the yolks of four eggs separately, beating them thoroughly into the mixture. Last of all, add the well-beaten whites, stirring them carefully in; bake twenty minutes in a quick oven. They should accompany meat which admits of gravy.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING BY MAIL. Address

Christie Irving, 120 Maple Ave., Springfield, O.

HOUSE JACKETS.

The illustration we give for house jackets and dress for young ladies are both simple enough to be copied. These are very pretty for evening wear, with dresses whose waists have got out of style or badly worn.

SEASONABLE RECIPES.

BEEF-TO PICKLE.—Put six gallons of pure water in a wash-kettle, and add six pounds of saltpeter and set on the fire to boil. When it is fully dissolved and boiling, immerse your beef, cut into convenient pieces for family use, in the saltpeter water, allow it to hang in the water for about five minutes. Take it out and when quite cold pack it close and firm in a cask or barrel. To your boiling saltpeter water now add nine pounds of fine salt, three pounds of pure, dry sugar, one quart of the best molasses and one of pearlash. Boil slowly and skim off all the impurities. Add more hot water if it has boiled away any. When the pickle is perfectly cold pour it over the beef and hold down with a heavy weight. The scalding of the beef in the saltpeter water closes the pores and preserves the juices in the meat.

BEEF SPICED.—Boil a chine of ten or twelve pounds until the meat falls from the bones. Pick the meat to pieces, mash the gristle fine, rejecting all parts too hard to mash. Cool the liquor and take off all the fat, boil it down to one and one-half pints, then return the meat, and season to taste while hot, adding, if liked, a little nutmeg, sage, one half teaspoonful of cloves and the same of cassia. Let it boil up once, then put into a mold and slice when cold.

SWEET CUCUMBER PICKLES.—Pick them when small, the size of your little finger, let them soak a few hours in weak salt water; then wash carefully and put them into a kettle lined with grape leaves, and cover with weak vinegar. When they scald, pack into bottles and pour over them hot a spiced, sweet vinegar after the following recipe:

- 1 gallon of vinegar,
- 1 pound of sugar,
- 2 tablespoonfuls of allspice,
- 2 tablespoonfuls of mustard seed,
- 2 tablespoonfuls of celery seed,
- 2 tablespoonfuls of salt,
- 1 tablespoonful of turmeric powder,
- 1 tablespoonful of black pepper,
- 1 tablespoonful of mace,
- 2 nutmegs, grated,
- 3 onions,
- 1 handful of grated horse-radish.

BLACKBERRY TEA.—In obstinate cases of diarrhoea it is well to have at hand some simple remedy. This can be found in tea made of blackberry roots. Take one ounce of the roots to a pint and a half of water, and simmer slowly till reduced to a pint and strain it. A little orange peel boiled with it gives it a very pleasant flavor. A dose for an adult would be a wine-glassful; for a child, from one to three teaspoonfuls.

JIMSON SALVE.—Home-made remedies are very often above all others, and this old one, which dates pretty far back with us, was always zealously kept in the house. Take a couple of dozen of the flowers of the jimson-weed and cook down in lard. Strain into tin boxes or little jars for future use. As a remedy for old sores, cuts, burns and such things it is unsurpassed. CHRISTIE IRVING.

BRUSSELS SPROUTS.—In the issue of September 15th, "Blossom" asks the way to cook Brussels sprouts. I give you my plan. First remove all the sprouts from the stalks, not omitting the large one at the top. Wash them thoroughly and let them stand a little while in water in which a handful of salt has been dissolved; then put them in boiling water to which has been added a tablespoonful of salt and a pinch of sal-soda, which will keep them green. Be sure to have sufficient water to cover them well. They will take about fifteen minutes to cook; then drain well through a colander and serve hot. E. N.

The housekeeper who knows how vexatious it is not to have knives, spoons and forks enough "to go around," and who envies those who never have to worry about such small but exasperating shortcomings, may be relieved to know that the butler of the White House has but four dozen of solid silver knives, forks and spoons in his pantry; and that when the president of the United States gives a dinner party, two of the fifty guests are supplied with plated ware. The "gold spoons" which cost Martin Van Buren his re-election, were found



PROMENADE COSTUME, JANUARY, 1814.

to be only plated with gold, and the coat of precious metal began to wear off in President Arthur's time, so that he had them replated.

Instruction in Letter Writing. Do you want to respond well and make your letters entertaining, so they will be welcomed by your friends? Many valuable hints and instructions given which any one can use at home. For circular, giving terms and full particulars, address Frances Bennett Callaway, Clinton, Conn.

TOKOLOGY, a complete Ladies' Guide in health and disease. Lizzie N. Armstrong writes: "If I knew I was to be the mother of innumerable children it would have no terrors for me, so great is my confidence in the science of Tokology. I have a strong, healthy baby boy, who has never been sick a minute." Bought from agents or direct of us. \$2.75. Sample pages free.

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It is NOT a dry, technical "Dress-Maker's Journal."

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HOUSE JACKETS.

with the present styles and praise the fashions of the long-ago; but if we make an intelligent study of the dresses worn by our great-grandmothers, we shall find that the costumes of to-day show better taste and more good sense than any ever in vogue. Indeed, we now are at that

point of wisdom where we have tried all things and hold fast to the best.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING BY MAIL. Address Christie Irving, 120 Maple Ave., Springfield, O.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

SATISFIED.

Psalm xvii: 15.

Do not ask that always
My pathway shall be light;
But I would pray that Christ would
guide me
Through the darkness night;
That in the way he leadeth
My blinded eyes may see
The enfolding cloud of love he spreadeth
Where'er his children be.

I would not ask that always
Through pastures fair and sweet,
My pathway should be marked before me
Smooth for my erring feet;
But if, though rough and thorny
The tangled way may be,
Mine be the strength that overcometh
Through Christ who walks with me.

I would not ask that even
The discipline of life
He sends to keep my wayward feet
From faltering in the strife
Should from my heart be lifted
Till, from earth's shadows dim,
In the calm land no sorrow enters,
I shall awake with him.

—Katharine P. Canning.

REAL KINDNESS.

BLIND and crippled old man sat at the edge of the icy stone pavement grinding out his few tunes on a wheezy band-organ, and holding in one hand a tin cup for pennies. The cold wind blew through his rags, and he was indeed a pitiful object. Yet few of the passers-by seemed to pity him. They were all in a hurry, and it was too cold to stop and hunt for pennies in pockets and purses.

A sudden gust of wind blew the old man's cap off. It fell by the side of the pavement, a few feet distant. He felt around for it with his bare, red hands, and then with his cane, but he could not find it, and finally began playing again, bareheaded, with his scanty gray locks tossed about in the wind.

People came and went, bappy, well-dressed men and women, in silks and velvets and sealskins, in warm overcoats and gloves and mufflers. But none of them paid any attention to the old man.

By and by a woman came out of an alley, an old woman in rags and tatters, with a great bundle of boards and sticks on her bent back. Some of the boards were so long that they dragged on the ground behind her, and it had evidently taken her a long time to tie all the boards and bits of lumber together and get them on her back.

She came along, bending low under her burden, until she was within a few feet of the old organ-grinder. She saw his cap lying beside the pavement, she saw him sitting there, bareheaded. She stopped and untied the rope that bound the bundle to her back, and in a moment the boards were lying on the ground. Then she picked up the cap, put it on the old man's head and tied it down with a ragged string of a handkerchief taken from her own neck.

"Cold, hain't it?" she said.

He nodded.

"Ain't gittin' much to-day?"

He shook his head again.

She fumbled in her ragged skirts for a moment, and finally brought forth a copper. She dropped it into his little cup, hoisted the great bundle on her back, and went on her way.

THE PURE IN HEART.

Bishop J. P. Newman, speaking of vital Christianity, says:

"When I was on the banks of the Jordan I filled two vials with Jordan water. The water in one I filtered in charcoal, and there it is, as transparent as crystal. Shake the vial and yet the water remains transparent and beautiful. Look at the water in the other vial. It is just as beautiful, just as transparent, but at the bottom of the vial there is an eighth of an inch of sediment, and by shaking, it becomes roily. So it would not do to shake some men; it would not do to shake some ministers. And in this settled state there are too many who fancy they are cleansed and clarified, but who do not wish to be shaken up. There are, however, men and women on this earth whom the devil may shake, but the waters will not be roiled, for they have been clarified."

THE MANY AND FEW.

There are many who are willing to reign with Christ in glory, but few who are willing to bear his cross. There are many who are glad to partake of comfort, but few of tribulation; many ready to feast with him, but few to fast. All desire to enter into his joy, but few to bear anything for his sake. Many follow Jesus to eat of his bread, but few to drink of the cup of his passion. Many venerate his miracles, few accept the ignominy of the cross. Many love Christ as long as all goes well. Many praise him and bless him as long as they receive consolation at his hands, but if he hide himself for a time and leave them, they are cast down and fall to complaining. But they who love him for his own sake and not for any advantage that they receive from him, bless and praise him in the depth of affliction and adversity as earnestly as when they are most filled with comfort.—*Thomas A' Kempis.*

TESTING GOD.

A short time ago I handed to one of God's own children, who was not a member of my church, some money I had secured for him and his family in their time of need. The tears came to his eyes. The act had touched the tenderest emotions of his soul. He began to tell me of the severe trials through which he had been passing. Said he: "I took it to the Lord. I told him he knew how sick I had been, how long out of work, how dark everything looked, how my wife and I had been fretting, but that for the future I would not fret, but would trust him, no matter what should come. Immediately help began to come."

It pays to trust God. God seems to summon us to the high and exalted privilege of testing him, hence he says, "Prove me," "Try me," "See if I will not." Dear reader, have you fulfilled the conditions? If so, joyously and confidently wait till there shall come the blessing—full, abundant, running over.—*J. W. Totten.*

WHY NOT TO-DAY?

The word of God invites men to repentance. The uncertainties that are around us, and the certainties which are before us, emphasize this invitation. To-day is the day of salvation. What other day God may give us no man can tell. It is for us to improve this present gracious hour as in the presence of God. It is for us to follow now in the path which he points out, and to walk this day in obedience to him. This very moment he asks us to yield ourselves to him, to consent to do what he requires, to forsake what he forbids, to follow him where he leads, to take the Lord to be our portion, and so leave behind us the world which has ever deceived, deluded and betrayed us to our ruin.

Let us remember how many have put far off the evil day, and have perished in their sins. Every hour of delay is an hour of danger.—*Word and Way.*

PERSONAL INFLUENCE.

Upon the higher Alps the snow is sometimes piled so high and so evenly balanced that the crack of a whip or the shout of a voice may give sufficient vibration to the air to bring down the whole mass upon the travelers below.

So in our moral world, there are souls just hovering over the abyss of ruin; a word, or even a look from us may cause them to plunge down into the depths from which there is no return; or a helping hand stretched out to them in the moment of peril may lead them back to the safe, sure paths of virtue and peace. Then let us, as professed followers of the meek and lowly Jesus, take heed to the injunction of the apostle, "Make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way, but let it rather be healed."

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See New York World, May 18, 1890; Philadelphia Press, May 19; Christian Observer and Medical Journal, April 9, etc., for full accounts of this wonderful botanical discovery. The Christian Evangelist, May 30, 1890, says editorially: "If no other result than the discovery of the Kola plant followed the explorations of Stanley and associates, surely their labors were not in vain. We have the most convincing proof that it is a certain and unfailing cure for Asthma in all its forms, and is the most valuable medical discovery of this century." Remember, NO PAY UNTIL CURED.

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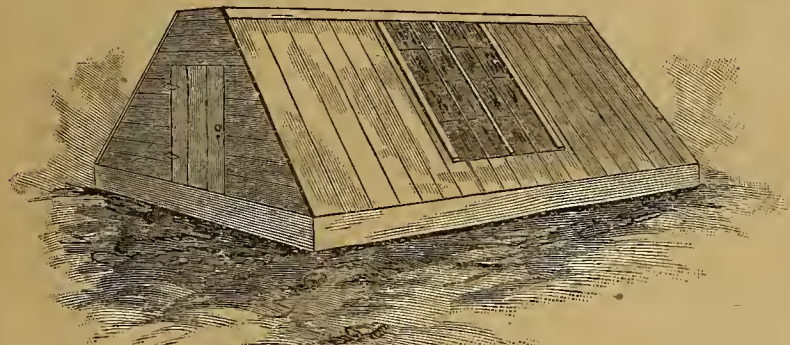
Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammoncton, New Jersey.

CHEAP FOODS FOR WINTER.

If we were compelled to name the cheapest foods that could be fed, with a view of securing the largest number of fresh eggs in winter, we would choose green bones cut fine, chopped clover hay, bran three times a week and wheat once a day. The wheat should be scattered in leaves or other litter, about a pint daily for ten hens, and the bone should be given in the morning, about half a pound to ten hens. At night, half a pound of clover hay, chopped and scalded, sprinkled with bran one day and middlings the next, should be sufficient. Such a food includes nearly all the elements required by the hens, is cheaper than feeding exclusively of grain, and affords a greater variety.

But to get eggs in winter does not depend on the food only. The best flock of hens that can be secured will fail to lay eggs in the cold season unless they are warm and comfortable. It will not be sufficient to give them a shelter from the rains. The hens must be protected from the winds that find entrance through the cracks and crevices, rather than from the cold. When the weather is very cold, with but little wind and the air dry, there is no liability of disease or suffering from cold. Good shelter and protection will save food, as it is from the food that the birds secure warmth. The first essential for laying, therefore, is warmth, the object being to create the conditions of spring, if possible, as an incentive to egg production.

Grain is the principal food used by all farmers, as it is always convenient and is accepted by all kinds of stock; but in the



A CHEAP ROOF POULTRY-HOUSE.

case of hens they are expected to do something more than simply exist and increase in weight. They must lay eggs, for that is their function, and in order to secure eggs from them, they must be supplied with egg material. There are butchers in all neighborhoods, and they are always willing to dispose of fragments, especially bones, and these bones may be pounded to pieces or cut up fine, not ground, as green bones will not grind. Small bonecutters are now being made and sold for that purpose, and they are enabling farmers and others to utilize much waste material, thus repaying their cost easily. But those who prefer to pound the bones can do so, as the hens will swallow pieces as large as grains of corn, and even larger. Clover is grown on nearly every farm, and if not, then the hay made from any nutritious grass will answer.

Brewers' grains, linseed-meal and corn are excellent, but unless used with judgment, the fowls become too fat. The way to feed at the lowest cost, however, is by feeding a variety, as the feeding of grain only is an expensive process, due to the fact that while the fowls may be fed liberally, they will not be supplied with the elements of egg production. When no results are obtained from the food, no matter what kind of food it may be, it becomes expensive. Variety, therefore, cheapens the cost and increases the product, permitting the farmer to economize in both directions. With all the advice in regard to feeding for eggs in winter, do not overlook the fact, as mentioned above, that warmth is the most important of all.

INSECTS IN THE POULTRY-HOUSE.

Those who have occasion to use the Bordeaux mixture or kerosene emulsion, or any of the insecticides for destroying insects on trees, will find those substances useful in the poultry-house also. It is not difficult to get rid of lice and other

vermin. Too much is expected from a single application of an insecticide. Because the house has been well drenched is no reason for supposing that all the vermin have been destroyed. To thoroughly clear out lice, two or three applications should be made, kerosene being excellent; but the kerosene emulsion will give good results also.

At this season, when the days are becoming cool, lice will not multiply so rapidly; but it is also the best time to destroy them, as they cannot so readily escape. If warfare on lice is kept up during the fall and winter, and no strange fowls brought into the flock, there will be but little liability of lice securing lodgment in the poultry-house next spring. The point insisted upon here is to be sure that they are exterminated by drenching the poultry-house several times from now until spring.

COVERED RUNS.

As glass is expensive, the runs for little chicks may be covered with muslin. If the muslin receives a coat of linseed-oil, it may be made to shed water. Muslin will not protect against heavy, drenching rains, but it will serve admirably in protecting the chicks from sudden showers and from the winds. A small run, made of plastering lath, with muslin tacked to the sides and over the top, will be light in weight and easily handled. The warmth of the sun will penetrate the muslin, and be retained much better than when glass is used; but glass makes the coop tight and close. Those who do not wish to incur too much expense will find muslin excellent and cheap.

A CHEAP ROOF POULTRY-HOUSE.

The plan given in the illustration is one which combines cheapness, and which allows quite an amount of space on the floor. The two sides are boards, placed straight up and down and battened. They are connected at the top with a board a foot or more wide, as preferred. On the top board tarred paper is placed and made to lap over the sides of the roof, so as to cover the ends of the perpendicular

boards. The ends of the house are made by nailing the boards crosswise, thus serving to hold the sides together. The top of the window, which may be of any preferred size, is also covered by the tarred paper, to prevent leakage. The boards come down to within one foot of the ground, the bottom board being one foot high; but if desired, the boards may come entirely to the ground.

The advantage of this house is the cheap cost, as the sides and roof are the same, except the small strip of tarred paper on top; but even that may be left off, and the edges of the boards brought together, if preferred. It may be of any size, and boards ten feet or longer may be used, according to the width desired in the house. This house is perhaps the cheapest house that can be built.

FLOORS OF BROODERS.

A brooder that permits the floor to become very warm will cause leg weakness of the chicks. The warmth of a brooder should always be over the chicks, not under them. The floor of the brooder should not be cold, however. It should be covered with dry dirt, with cut straw over the dirt, which prevents cold draughts under the chicks, and assists in preventing leg weakness.

WARMING A POULTRY-HOUSE.

It is not necessary to heat a poultry-house artificially, as the fowls will be warm and comfortable if they are kept at work and in exercise. When the quarters are made warm by artificial methods, the fowls will not so well endure exposure outside. The lowest temperature should be forty degrees and the highest sixty degrees, the object being simply to prevent the freezing point being reached. This can be accomplished by allowing plenty of sunlight to enter during the day and having the walls tight and close.

FATTEN THE TURKEYS.

Turkeys will soon be in demand, and the demand will continue until after Christmas. It is not necessary that a turkey should be large in order to bring a good price, for in fact, it is the smaller turkeys that are mostly preferred. What is essential in a turkey is quality. Many farmers allow their turkeys to seek their food until ready to market them, the result being that while some are in good condition, others will not be up to the weight that they could be made to attain with care.

As turkeys bring as high as twenty cents a pound retail, in the height of the season, a pound added to the weight is quite an item. There will be a loss on inferior turkeys in the price. The way to fatten them is not to confine them, for they will not gain flesh in confinement, but to give them wheat in the morning and corn at night, allowing them to fill their crops well with the corn. As they will also pick up many varieties of food during the day, if the snow is not on the ground, they will improve rapidly and be in good condition for market at any time.

THE COCHIN FOWL.

The Cochin fowl is one that is very hardy, and when kept under proper conditions will lay as many eggs as other breeds. The mistake made in keeping Cochins is that they are usually fed too heavily. They cannot fly over a fence four feet high, are not very active, and should have less corn than the active breeds. No breed excels them in being exempt from disease, and a cross of the Brown Leghorn male and Partridge Cochin hen produces the most beautiful pullets known, and the pullets so produced are also unsurpassed as layers. Those who wish to combine prolificacy, beauty and hardiness, will find the cross named perhaps better than any other.

Of the different varieties of Cochins, the Buff seems to be the favorite. The Black Cochins are also admired, but they are not as numerous as the Partridge and Buff varieties. There is also a white variety, but they are not bred extensively. Although the Cochin has a single comb, yet the comb is rather small and not easily subject to frost. The Cochin is one of the largest breeds, and lays dark eggs. The hens are excellent sitters and mothers.

SCRATCHING.

If scratching is important during the summer, it is more so during the winter, as it is by work and exercise that the blood is kept in circulation and the bodies made warm. The use of leaves or cut straw on the floor of the poultry-house, into which the grain food should be scattered, will keep the hens busy. Whenever you visit the poultry-house the hens should be seen busily at work, and not idle. The idle hen seldom lays, as idleness on her part indicates that she is out of condition for laying.

EVERYTHING MOVABLE.

The nests, roosts, troughs and every appliance used in a poultry-house should be so arranged as to permit of their being taken outside when it is desirable to clean up the premises, as the floor and house can then be more conveniently renovated and the appliances can be better overhauled outside.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN AGED HEN—LEG WEAKNESS.—I wish to say something here in regard to fowls losing the use of their legs. I have had three Plymouth Rocks affected this way. You say how did you cure them? I will tell you. I bandaged the legs with flannel, and then wet the flannel night and morning with rum (this is a temperance town, too), and in two days they were as lively as larks. I mention this because it may help others. Another thing I want to mention is that I have a Black Hamburg hen that is twelve years old, and she is giving me three eggs a week. I think she is doing well in her old age.

Marblehead, Mass.

H. H.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Lameness of Hens.—J. B., Sumner, Ill., writes: "Please inform me what is the matter with a hen I have. She eats and drinks, is not affected with bowel disease, but is droopy all the time."

REPLY:—It may be due to the gray lice on the heads, or it may be due to the male's attentions. She should be removed from the flock.

Felt Roofs.—G. R., Eminence, Kan., writes: "In using tarred felt or roofing paper, is it necessary to paint it, and if so, how often?"

REPLY:—It should be painted or covered with roofing tar once or twice the first year, and once a year thereafter. Unless the paint is applied when the paper is put on, the house may leak. The paper does not last very long unless properly put on and protected with paint or gas-tar.

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Manuring the Garden.—J. F. W., Cambridge, Ohio, writes: "I have one acre of timothy sod, which I wish to use as a garden plot next year. Soil, a heavy loam. Will have about fifteen tons of stable manure during the coming winter. I intend to sow phosphate this fall, then spread manure as fast as made, and plow again in early spring, giving another top dressing of phosphate. Will this do? How much phosphate should I use each time?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—I would not use the phosphate this fall. Put on the manure as fast as it is made during the winter, plow in early spring, and put on as much of a good, high-grade potato or vegetable manure as you can afford. Fifteen tons of stable manure, especially if fresh, is not an excessive dose. A ton of concentrated fertilizer will not be too much, if you wish to grow large crops. But perhaps you could buy good compost even cheaper in proportion; say at \$1, or less, a ton; and I should prefer it.

Wintering Celery.—F. K., Clarkston, Mich., writes: "Which is the best method of keeping celery for winter use? Shall I bury it or keep it in the cellar?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—You can do either. On a small scale, I would prefer the cellar. A root-house is also a good place, and some celery growers have houses or pits devoted exclusively to celery wintering. Guard against crowding too large a bulk together. The tops would heat and decay. Set the plants, with some of the roots and soil left on, upon moist soil or sand, directly upon the cellar bottom. Keep the tops dry and the roots moist, and let no frost reach them. You can store the plants in boxes in the same way, standing upright upon some moist soil. Plants with coarser leaves and roots removed can also be packed in moist moss in boxes, keeping only the very tip-ends exposed, and the plants, of course, standing upright. They will remain in good condition for the table for a long time.

Lime and Phosphate.—F. S. T., Holston Valley, Tenn., writes: "I have turned down a heavy sod of red-top and sedge-grass and top-dressed with lime. Will it pay me to use fine, ground bone, or will the lime counteract the effect of the bone-dust? Is sedge-grass and sheep-sorrel an evidence that the land is sour and needs lime? What is the relative value of South Carolina dissolved rock and fine, ground bone?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—I suppose the land is well drained, not wet. If not, draining is the first thing that ought to be done with it. The application of lime, under the circumstances, is probably a good thing. It will correct sourness, prevent acid fermentation and promote the rotting of the green manure. Whether bone-dust will pay or not is a question I cannot answer. It may, and it may not. It depends on the soil itself and the crop. It will probably do good, and can do no harm. I would prefer bone-dust to superphosphate, as it is a better companion to lime. Where phosphoric acid is needed in an immediately available form, I would use dissolved South Carolina rock, or dissolved bone, being worth about \$20 per ton. Ground bone costs at least \$30 per ton; but, being almost one quarter phosphoric acid, although in a less available form, it is usually the cheapest form in which we can buy phosphoric acid.

FLORAL QUERIES.

ANSWERS BY GEO. W. PARK, LIBONIA, PA.

Angel's Trumpet.—R. A. A., Ohio, writes: "Please tell us how to cultivate the plant known as angel's trumpet, or wedding bell, so as to have it bloom. I have one of them of large size, yet it never blooms."

ANSWER BY GEO. W. PARK:—The angel's trumpet is known in catalogues as Brugmansia suaveolens or Datura suaveolens, the modern botanists preferring the former name. It is successfully grown in large conservatories by bedding it in the soil, and often attains a height of twenty feet. Those who lack the use of a conservatory may, however, meet with excellent success by planting out in very rich soil and in a dry, sunny place as early in spring as danger from frost is past, and giving the plant some attention during summer, mulching heavily with manure as soon as hot weather comes. Thus treated, even small plants will bloom the first year. When there is danger from frost in autumn, cut back the branches and take up the plant and place it in a large pot or keg to winter. Water sparingly during winter, and keep in a rather dry, warm place till spring, when it may again be planted out. A branch showing the handsome foliage and the lovely, white, fragrant trumpets, is shown in the engraving.

Spotted Calla.—B. H., Arkansas, writes: "I should like to ask about my spotted calla lily. Last April I sent for a bulb, which I potted. It came up and grew nicely until a few weeks ago, when the lower leaves began to turn yellow. I put it in a larger pot, but still they became yellow, and I cut them all off. This is the first time I ever tried to grow a calla. Will it come up again or not? What is wrong with it, and what must I do with it?"

ANSWER BY GEO. W. PARK:—The spotted calla (Richardia maculata alba) is a summer-blooming plant. If set out early in spring, it will make a vigorous growth, bloom and develop a spike of seeds not unlike that of Indian turnip (Arisaema triphyllum), except that the seed-covering is yellowish-green, instead of red. All this requires four or five months' time. Then, as the seeds begin to mature, the leaves gradually turn yellow and decay, and the bulbs are ready to be lifted and stored till the next season. The plant cannot be successfully treated as an evergreen perennial, after the manner of the plain calla. It must have a long period of rest, and the bulbs during that period may be kept in the dry state, just as the farmer keeps his potatoes, or as gladiolus bulbs are kept. In the spring, separate the bulbs and plant again, or repot, as the case may be.

About Roses.—Mrs. A. J. S., Idaho, writes: "What ails our roses that they do not bloom? Many of the buds turn brown before they are a quarter grown, and wither and dry up. Some appear to be stung and some have holes eaten in them. Some of the buds do not seem to be ailing until just as they begin to open, when they will partially open, then stop and dry up. My bushes are all healthy-looking but one. It looks yellow. My neighbor's bushes have been served the same way. Hers were all strong, healthy bushes."

ANSWER BY GEO. W. PARK:—It may be that the roses are of varieties which do not develop well. The old-fashioned May rose rarely develops a flower perfectly, even under the most favorable conditions. The same is true of an exquisite, peach-colored, double rose, which is common in gardens. Some of the hybrid perpetual roses have the same fault, as well as a few ever-blooming varieties. Of the latter, that exquisite, deep yellow variety, known as Etoile de Lyon, the growth of which is vigorous and the bloom free, is one which is rarely seen in perfection, as it is affected by wet weather, as well as by drouth. Mme. Camille is another of the same sort. These are all exceptional roses, and the best treatment known would not always produce satisfactory results. Where the fault lies in the superabundance of buds produced, some benefit may be found in disbudding, pruning, etc., as well as enriching the soil and keeping it loose. When the trouble comes from drouth or the extreme heat about the roots, a liberal mulching with coarse stable litter will be serviceable. But roses which shrink from foul weather can only be successfully grown under glass. There are a great many insects or insect larvae which trouble roses, as aphides, beetles, bugs, slugs, caterpillars, etc. Most of these may be overcome by the liberal and daily use of the syringe and cold water. If a severe remedy is necessary, however, such enemies as live upon the juices of the plant, as aphides, scale insects, etc., may be eradicated by syringing with a kerosene emulsion made from strong soapsuds and a small quantity of kerosene oil, say one sixth of a pint to a gallon of suds. Bugs and beetles, caterpillars, slugs, and such insects as eat the leaves and flowers, may be destroyed by sprinkling the plants with water in which Paris green, hellebore or carbolic acid has been incorporated.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers, Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should enclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 35 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

A Disagreeable Mare.—J. K. B., Honesdale, Va., writes: "Could you give me some advice as to what I could do with my four-year-old mare? When she is horsing she is very disagreeable. I need her to work, so that it would be impossible to raise a colt from her."

ANSWER:—You may try small doses of camphor when the mare comes in season; but if you cannot breed her, it would be best that you sell the mare to somebody who can raise a colt, and buy a gelding to do your work.

Fistulous Withers.—P. H., Ellis Prairie, Mo., describes a case of fistulous withers. First probe the abscesses to the bottom, then make a lower opening, best by means of a bent trocar, from the bottom of each abscess to the outside, so as to enable the pus to be discharged from every point of the abscess cavities. This done, use caustics for a few days to destroy the callous walls of the cavities, and that done, use mild antiseptics. For full directions I have to refer you to very recent answers given to inquiries concerning fistules.

Partial Paralysis of the Hind Quarters.—P. J. S., Horse Plains, Montana, writes: "What is the matter with my colt? He has had the pink-eye and has been very poor, but is getting fast now. He acts behind like a drunken man; he almost falls over. He doesn't flinch when pressed over the kidneys."

ANSWER:—I am afraid you cannot do anything and have a desperate case. If you desire to do something, you may apply a good counter-irritant, a fly-blister, for instance, to the lumbar region, above the kidneys, and repeat the application once every four or five days.

Splint.—T. M. S., Streator, Ill., writes: "I have a colt, fifteen months old, that has a splint on the right front leg on the inside, about the size of a pigeon egg. It has been on for about three months. Would like to have your advice what to do for it."

ANSWER:—Pare the hoof so as to lower the inside of the same in order to relieve the head of the inner splint-bone. This done, get an ounce of gray mercurial ointment, and once a day rub in a little of that ointment—about as much as, in a lump, would be of the size of a pea—on the enlargement or so-called splint. Rub it in thoroughly.

Mammary Trouble.—E. B., Montreal, writes: "I have a cow that milks nearly all from the two near teats, the two off teats giving very little. Will you kindly tell me the reason and oblige a subscriber."

ANSWER:—It will be difficult to satisfactorily answer your question without examining the animal. There are too many possibilities. So, for instance, one mammary gland may be rudimentary, insufficiently developed, diseased, or degenerated, or the two off teats may be insufficiently developed, diseased, or degenerated; or another possibility, the off mammary gland may never have been excited to sufficient activity by milking or sucking.

Had Its Leg Broken.—J. F. C., Fox, Ala., writes: "I have a yearling colt that got his left thigh broken when about six months old. Kept him in a swing until he got well, and now he appears to be lame in his right leg. His right foot is swollen in the pastern-joint. His well leg is some longer than the broken one."

ANSWER:—The unequal length of the hind legs probably causes the lameness. If the difference in length is only an inch, or at the most, an inch and one half, you may equalize the length of both legs by shoeing the foot of the shorter leg with a shoe that has heel and toe calks long enough to make up for the difference. As a rule, such a colt is worthless.

Pink-eye in Cattle.—Mrs. N. S. E., Palestine, Texas, writes: "Please tell me what is the pink-eye in cattle. I had a calf die with it, and now the mother of the calf has it. They appear to suffer internally, and strain for an action, but have none, and foam at the mouth."

ANSWER:—I never heard of pink-eye in cattle, a name which, possibly, might be given to a disease known as infectious conjunctiva-keratitis of cattle, but this latter disease is not fatal and does not cause severe constipation. It is possible that your animals were affected with an inflammatory gastric disorder, which also would cause the conjunctiva of the eye to show a reddish color, but further I cannot say, because your description is too meager.

Hydrocele.—B. A. M., Boliug, Kan., writes: "I have in my care a valuable horse of the shire stock, that is troubled with what is known by physicians as hydrocele, commonly called water-seed. Please give treatment."

ANSWER:—Hydrocele, an accumulation of serum in the scrotum, is usually due to an effusion and accumulation of serum in the abdominal cavity, and occurs in young and lax colts, and in old horses. In comparatively rare cases it may be caused by a degeneration of the testicles, and in such cases, castration would constitute the only remedy. If due to an hydropical effusion in the abdominal cavity, nutritious food, exercise, and, perhaps, diuretics constitute the treatment.

Bog-spavin.—H. R., Green Bay, Wis. If you only had watched a little closer, you would more than once have found what you want. Your colt has what is usually called a bog-spavin, or, in other words, a morbid enlargement of the capsular ligament of the hock-joint. Such a bog-spavin, unless the causes can be removed, is usually very obstinate and does not easily yield to treatment. Still, as it but rarely causes lameness, it may just as well be left alone. If you desire to do something you may rub in once a day some tincture of iodine, but when doing it, it will be well to cover your hand with a piece of bladder, or with a rubber glove, because tincture of iodine will stain the hands a beautiful brown for at least twenty-four hours.

Hollow-horn.—J. A. D., Mt. Pleasant, Fla., writes: "Will you please explain what the disease is that is termed 'hollow-horn'?" I notice in your answer to E. H. W. that you say there is no such disease. I have seen a good many cattle that were said to have 'hollow-horn,' and have myself bored their horns, which were hollow; indeed, not even blood coming from a hole bored two inches from the head. I would like to know the cause and remedy."

ANSWER:—You simply don't seem to know, or don't want to learn, that all horns of grown cattle are hollow; or, in other words, that the frontal sinus extends into the process for the horn. Better go to a slaughter-house and study a little bovine anatomy, and you will learn what "hollow-horn" is. I cannot teach you if you don't want to believe what I tell you, or if you think you know better.

Cough.—N. L., Barry, Kan., writes: "What is the matter with my mare? She has been coughing off and on for nearly three months. She doesn't run at the nose, has a good appetite, is thin in flesh but seems to feel good. She has access to the grass during the day and stable her at night. Feed her lightly on corn, twice a day, and plenty of prairie hay at night. I am weaning her colt. She is idle most of the time. Several horses in this vicinity are troubled with a cough.—Please tell the best remedy to dry up a mare."

ANSWER:—Coughing is too common a symptom of nearly all diseases of the respiratory apparatus; I, therefore, cannot answer your question. There are too many possibilities. The best remedy to dry up a mare is work, no more water to drink than is necessary and no milk-producing food; for instance, no oats and no green food.

Age of Young Cattle.—M. S. E., Lebanon, Mo., writes: "Can the age of young cattle be told by their front teeth or nippers, and, if so, how?"

ANSWER:—It can. A calf when born has, in some cases, all its milk incisors, or if not, will have them within three weeks. The permanent nippers make their appearance—break through—at an age of fourteen to twenty-four months, but usually at an age of eighteen to twenty months. The inner middle teeth make their appearance at an age of two years to two years nine months, the external middle teeth at an age of two years nine months to three years, or, in rare exceptions, as late as three years three months, and the permanent corner teeth appear at an age of three years three months to four years, but usually at three years three months to three years six months, so that at three and a half years cattle usually have a full mouth of permanent teeth.

Swelled Leg.—O. D. F., Peelee Island, Ont., writes: "I have a five-year-old mare that has one of her hind legs swelled up to her knee-joint. When she stands in the stable over night it swells up quite large and gets stiff, but as soon as I drive her it goes down. It does not seem to hurt her any. She does not favor it any. She has been that way about eight months. She had the scratches all last winter, but when spring came she seemed to get over them, but her leg has swelled ever since when she stands any length of time. She is in good order and seems well. It does not seem to bother her much after she has traveled a little. What can I do for her?"

ANSWER:—Exercise your mare during the day, rub the swelled legs with a piece of a woolen blanket, a wisp of straw or hay, or with the hand. After the exercise, apply bandages of woolen flannel, to be kept on until next morning. The bandaging must be commenced at the hoof. When, in the morning, the bandages are removed, rub the legs again, the same as in the evening, and repeat this treatment day after day until no more reduction of the swelling can be effected.

A Malignant Wart.—N. C. S., Purdy, Tenn., writes: "I commenced several weeks ago to remove a wart from the front part of the pastern-joint of a fore leg of a seven-year-old mare. The wart had been there five years and had been doctored a great deal. I began by applying sulphuric acid until it was level with the skin and then covered it with arsenic, and that not being enough to cause it to drop out I repeated it. It now appears that the wart is entirely gone, but the leg is swelled considerably. The sore is as large as a man's hand and is discharging large quantities of pus, most of it coming from the center of it, which is about the joint. I am satisfied that the ligament on the front of the joint is gone, because there is a small portion of the bone visible. I have removed several warts with the same remedy and never had any ill effect to follow. Now, I want to know what will heal the sore, if there is anything that will. You will please answer through the columns of the FARM AND FIRESIDE, October 15th number."

ANSWER:—In the first place you cannot expect to get an answer in FARM AND FIRESIDE of October 15th if you mail your inquiry on October 6th. As to your inquiry, all I can say is, you probably meant to do a thorough job and overdid it. Sulphuric acid and arsenious acid are, at any rate, too dangerous things to be applied by one not thoroughly familiar with their effect upon animal tissues. As it is, your animal is worthless and cannot be restored to usefulness.

Colic.—Prince, Buckley, Wash., writes: "About two weeks ago my horse, while hauling bolts, commenced pawing, first one foot, then the other, and would not stand still. I worked him an hour longer, and he pulled all right. At night he would not eat, would try to dig a hole with the toe of his fore foot, stick his nose to the ground, look around at his sides and then lie down, roll around and

groan. He had no perceptible fever, eyes bright and ears erect. I had noticed nothing wrong with his water, and his passages seemed all right. I had only owned him a few days. Next morning he had not made water, so I gave him two tablespoonfuls of niter in water. He walked around in pasture that day, pawing and lying down at intervals. A horse doctor in town pronounced it colic and gave me medicine. I do not know what it was. I gave him one dose. The horse got better, and three days after went to work. He worked three days, when I noticed the same symptoms, only he appeared to be weak behind. He did not care to bear his weight on his hind legs. He would lie down, stretch his legs out stiff and bend his head back and paw. He could hardly get up when down. The pain was less severe after urinating. When standing, his hind legs would seem to give away. His water looked thick and yellow at times, and then would be clear. He had little or no fever. He is about twelve years old, and was badly foundered a year ago. I am feeding timothy hay and chopped barley, wet with hot water while at work. I called in the same doctor and he pronounced it inflammation of the kidneys. He gave two two-ounce doses of niter and twenty drops of tincture of aconite. The horse got no better, but would eat almost a full feed. Twenty-four hours after giving the above, I called him again. He gave two doses of thirty grains of pulo opium and fifteen grains of calomel each, two hours apart, followed by twenty-five drops of aconite, two hours after last dose, with flaxseed tea to drink at will. The horse eats heartily, but is hardly able to walk, and is still subject to spells of lying down, groaning and pawing. I had his sheath cleaned and greased two weeks ago. Can you tell from the above what is the matter and what to do?"

ANSWER:—Your horse had attacks of colic, nothing else. He seems to be subject to it, and undoubtedly has an aneurism in the anterior mesenteric artery, and, maybe, also in some other one of the main branches of the posterior aorta. Some day he will die of colic and give you a chance to make a post-mortem examination.

Actinomycosis.—W. J. B., Colony, Kan., writes: "Is there any cure for big-jaw (so called) in cattle? I have a two-year-old steer that I think is developing one on the lower jaw. Have also a cow that has one on the upper jaw. We opened it last fall and with a glass syringe dressed it with corrosive sublimate dissolved in turpentine. It did not appear to do much good." L. W., Cub Lake, Miss., also writes: "I have an ox that has a hard lump on his jaw. When it first made its appearance it was soft. I opened it with a small knife-blade, and it discharged a quantity of matter, but continued to grow and is still hard. The ox is working, but will not keep in good order."

ANSWER:—Although questions like yours have repeatedly been answered in these columns, I will once more give directions how to treat cases of actinomycosis or lump-jaw, in which the tumor is in the subcutaneous connective tissue, or in which, in other words, the seat of the morbid process is beneath the skin, but not in the jaw-bone. If in the latter, a cure, for obvious reasons, is out of the question. If the tumor is in or beneath the skin, and consequently movable, proceed as follows: First procure from a drug store the following very poisonous mixture: Arsenious acid, half an ounce; caustic potash, two drachms; powdered gum acacia (genuine), half an ounce, and distilled water, one ounce. As this mixture is thick, have it put in a salt-mouthed vial and labeled poison. Secondly, prepare a stick of hard wood about a foot long, an inch wide and three eighths of an inch thick. Whittle one end so as to taper in every direction and make it dagger-shaped, but see to it that the tapering end is smooth, or smooth it with sandpaper. Thirdly, get some absorbent cotton. Fourthly, procure a sharp, pointed knife or bistoury. If all this is at hand, fasten the animal to be operated upon securely, and especially tie the head and let a strong man take hold of the horns, because the operation is painful and the animal will struggle with all its might. After the animal is well secured, take the knife and make a cut at least an inch wide into the center of the tumor; then take the stick, wrap a small bunch of the absorbent cotton around the pointed end, dip that end with the cotton into the arsenic mixture, turn it about once or twice so that enough of the mixture will adhere and be absorbed, and then push the cotton into the wound. If by withdrawing the stick the prop of cotton should not remain in the cavity of the tumor, push it off the stick with another pointed stick and thus make it stay in the cavity. If the latter is filled with one prop, all right, if not, insert a second, a third, a fourth or fifth one until the cavity is well filled. The number of props to be inserted, however, does not entirely depend upon the size of the cavity, but also upon the size of the tumor, the thickness of the skin, the size of the props and the quantity of the mixture introduced with each prop. Since the mixture is exceedingly poisonous and corrosive, it is well to have water close at hand in case some of the mixture should come in contact with the hands of the operator, that the latter may be washed immediately. After a sufficient number of props have been inserted the operation is finished and the animal may be relieved and let go. In a few days the swelling will be more than double its former size, but after the third or fourth day it will decrease again, until in a week or two it is somewhat smaller than before. It will then grow hard, and in about two weeks a plain line of demarcation will appear. This line will gradually widen, until in from four to eight weeks the whole tumor will drop out, and the wound caused by the loss of substance will be closed in a comparatively short time by a somewhat puckered scar. The latter, compared with the tumor, will be very small and not at all conspicuous or easily seen, unless one knows that actinomycosis has existed. (All those that have or expect to have cattle with lump-jaw, may cut this out and preserve it.)

TONS OF BUTTER DAILY.

Ten thousand pounds of butter a day is the output that entitles the Franklin County Creamery Association to the name of "the largest creamery in the world."

Mr. T. M. Deal, the manager, says: "As a uniform and natural color has a very large influence upon the selling price of butter, we made the most critical tests before adopting any one as our standard. We finally settled upon Wells, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color, which we found the strongest, purest and most natural of the many upon the market."

These are strong words, but this Improved Color is fully worthy of them. The best is none too good for you, especially when on account of its superior strength, it is really the most economical. Try it once, and you will never use anything else for coloring.

Our Miscellany.

JAPAN has two thousand newspapers. Not a single journal existed there twenty-five years ago.

WE call attention to the WEST SHORE MAGAZINE'S advertisement on this page.

THE small amount of rosewood that now comes from South America is worth \$750 per thousand feet.

ITALIAN emigration increases, 2,000 persons having quitted Rome during the last two months, almost all for Brazil.

THE final return is in, and the exact number of our population is 62,622,250, according to Census Commissioner Porter.

MISS MAUD M. TAYLOR, of Girtou, has been appointed to the professorship of ancient history at Bedford College, London.

THE absolute wealth of the United States is put at \$62,610,000,000, or about \$1,000 per capita, as against \$870 per capita in 1880.

AN excellent occupation for deaf mutes has been hit upon by the Royal Institute in Great Britain, which is training some of its inmates as barbers.

THE zinc-tannin process of preparing wood to resist decay is proving a great success. It hardens the wood and makes it much more useful, especially when used for railroad ties.

KAISER WILHELM is the only one of the three emperors who reads the newspapers for himself. The czar and the emperor of Austria have a private journal of cuttings set up for them daily.

WHILE flats are becoming increasingly popular in France among people of moderate means, people in a corresponding position in Germany are as anxious to live in houses of their own, and a company has just been formed in Berlin to enable them to do so.

PHILADELPHIA is a city of homes, compared with other cities. From the report of Postmaster Field to the department respecting letter-carriers, it appears that there are 235,000 houses as against 128,000, the approximate estimate for Chicago, 119,238 in New York and 52,599 in Boston; showing an excess of 115,672 for Philadelphia over New York, 107,000 over Chicago and 182,401 over Boston. In Philadelphia 91½ square miles are covered by the delivery system, which exceeds Chicago's area by 31½ square miles, Boston's by 58½ and New York's by 50½.

AN ELECTRIC HAND-LAMP.—It is said that an electric hand-lamp has been invented, the illuminating principle of which is generated by some simple chemicals that are ridiculously cheap and easily manipulated. A little sliding drawer at the bottom of the lamp holds the electric spark in solution, while by simply touching a button a magnificent light is developed or extinguished, as the case may be. This lamp does not specially differ in appearance from the ordinary kerosene affair, and can be used in the same way, but with complete absence of trouble, odor or danger.

AN AGGRAVATING SORE THROAT is soon relieved by Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, an old-time remedy for Bronchial and Pulmonary Affections.

PROTECTION FROM BURYING ALIVE.—The very latest and probably the most novel application of electricity is a device called a grave "annunciator," which will be hailed with satisfaction by all those people who are in mortal terror of being buried alive. Connected with the casket of the person buried is a tube containing a circuit closer, which, by means of a cord, is connected with the finger of the deceased. A wire runs from the grave to an electrical bell placed at any desired point, and in case of the dead coming to life again the cord is pulled, the circuit closed and the bell is rung. A valve in the tube prevents the escape of noxious gases in case death has been sure.

BEECHAM'S PILLS cure Sick-Headache.

HOT MILK AS A STIMULANT.—Hot milk is recommended by a medical journal as an excellent substitute for beer, whiskey or other alcoholic stimulants, in cases of great fatigue and over-exertion of body or mind. Its reviving influence, when taken as hot as it can be sipped, is remarkable. Its effect is promptly felt and lasting, and even those who have been accustomed to the use of alcoholic beverages will find this substitute remarkably satisfying. This is especially true of over-worked women, for whom physicians sometimes prescribe beer and other mild stimulants. The momentary exhilaration felt is only the whip applied to an exhausted body, while the hot milk is digested and gives nourishment and real strength.

A NEW OPERATION FOR CATARACT THAT IS PAINLESS AND SAFE.

The following will doubtless be of interest to our readers: Mrs. Daniel Getz, of Springfield, Ohio, is one of twelve aged blind persons for whom Dr. S. F. Bliss, of that city, has made the new operation for cataract in the last few months, all of whom were restored to sight in from five to twelve days.

This new operation is painless, leaves the eye looking natural, does not require rigid confinement, and is by far the safest operation known for the relief of blindness. Mrs. Getz had been blind five years and had lost one eye by an unsuccessful operation several years ago.

FREDERICK K. RINDGE, of Cambridge, Mass., has within the last three years given to charitable, religious and municipal institutions more than \$3,000,000. He inherited his money.

So many Jews of all tongues and from all parts of the world are returning to live in Palestine that Hebrew is once more becoming a living language. Two newspapers are now published in Hebrew in Palestine.

In the year of confederation (1867) there were but 2,258 miles of railway in Canada; now there are 14,500 miles, or about one mile for every 335 inhabitants—a ratio perhaps in excess of any other country in the world.

FRANCE, according to its census returns, is virtually at a standstill in the matter of population. It was given as 38,218,906 in 1886, and 38,095,150 in 1891. Yet France loses less by emigration than most European countries.

On the Mangishlak peninsula, in the Caspian sea, there are five small lakes. One of them is covered with salt crystals strong enough to allow man and beast to cross the lake on foot; another is as round as any circle, and of a lovely rose color.

It is related as a curious fact that Paris, with a population of nearly 2,500,000 souls, has less than one hundred negroes within its limits. Statisticians say that the whole of France cannot master a negro population exceeding five hundred.

AN IMPORTANT INVENTION.—The Liverpool Journal of Commerce understands that the engineering world will shortly be startled by the appearance of a new engine which, if the results confirm the anticipation, will revolutionize the motive power at present in use. A model is in course of preparation by the inventor, who has the benefit of the advice and co-operation of a leading scientific engineer. The advantages claimed are less original cost, greater power, space required very much less than at present occupied, also less boiler space and great saving in fuel, which means more cargo capacity.

BIG MONEY FOR AGENTS.

A \$50 appointment on 30 days' time, guarantee \$150 profit in four weeks or no pay. Free sample for stamp. Address.

B. W. SHOOP & Co., Racine, Wis.

THEIR WAY OF DOING IT.

The Venezuelan methods for collecting duties are peculiar. If a cook-stove has a brass knob on its door, the whole thing is weighed as so much brass and duty charged accordingly. A barrel of flour costing \$5 pays imposts not only on the flour, but the staves, hoops and heads, costing, when set down, with freight and duties added, \$15. And yet, owing to cheap labor, bread is about as low and quite as good in Caracas as in New York.

Send 2c. stamp for the LARGEST SAMPLE BOOK of genuine hidden names, silk, flannel, and calling cards ever offered. BUCKEYE CARD CO., Lancaster, Ohio.

SILK SATIN & PLUSH REMNANTS

For Crazy Patch, a large package pretty pieces, assorted colors 10c. 3 pkg. 25c. A large pkg. all colors Embroidery Silk 20c. Tissue Paper Flowers, how to make, samples of paper and price-list of material, 10c. Ladies Art Co., Box 984 U. S. St. Louis, Mo.

AMERICAN CORN HUSKER.

Premium No. 124.

This is the invention of an expert corn-husker, and is a simple, convenient, effective and superior article, to which we take great pleasure in calling the attention of farmers everywhere. It is the most successful invention for making corn-husking short, pleasant and easy. Is made of good steel, and possesses all the good and none of the objectionable qualities of the old-style pegs. Especial advantage and convenience are gained by its adaptation to the hand. You can keep your hands warm while using this husker, as mittens may be worn without interfering with the work. The strap shown in cut does not go with the husker, but is easily put on by any one.

Two given as a premium for 1 new yearly subscriber.

Price of two, including one year's subscription, 50 cents.

We offer one for sale for 10 cents, or three for 25 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

Address all orders to

FARM AND FIRESIDE,

Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.

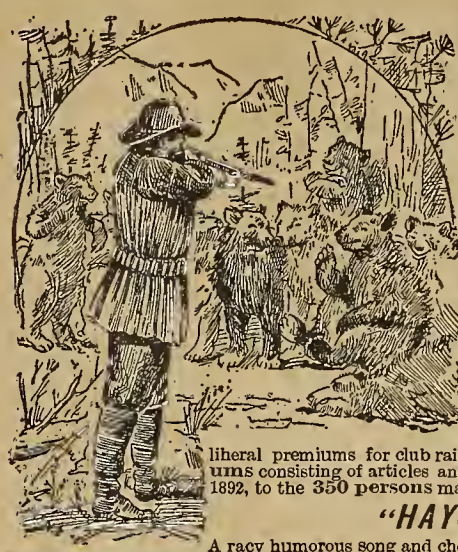
\$870 IN GOLD

Given Away

No. 1

No. 2

We will give the first person telling us on or before January 1st, 1892, which is the longest line—number 1 or number 2—\$150 in Gold; to the one giving the next correct answer, \$75; to the third, \$30; fourth, \$25; fifth, \$20; sixth, \$15. To the next 25 persons, \$5 each. To person sending last correct answer, \$150 in Gold; next to the last, \$75; next, \$30; next 25 persons, \$5 each; and the next 25 persons (should there be so many who send correct answer), \$2 each. Be careful, it is not as easy as it looks. Only one answer will be allowed each person. With your answer send us 25c. postal note or 30c. in stamps for our Celebrated Fountain Pen. Remember you pay nothing for the presents, as they are absolutely given away to introduce our pens. Immediately after January 1st, 1892, a printed list, giving the names and addresses of the successful contestants, will be mailed each person who sends in an answer. Address Luddington Supply Co., 9 Park Place, New York City.



A racy humorous song and chorus with piano accompaniment, written for the FARM, FIELD AND STOCKMAN, illustrating the present uprising of farmers, particularly adapted to be sung in the lodge room, or at farmer's gatherings, picnics, etc. It is the best thing out. Price, twenty-five cents. Fourth—a copy of our

POSTAL SAVINGS BANK AND LOAN BILL.

The best measure ever published for improving the present financial systems, increasing the amount of money in circulation and emancipating farmers and the industrial classes from the thralldom of the money-lender and landlord. Fifth—a circular fully describing the plan of the

FARMER'S PROGRESSIVE READING CIRCLES

for home education. A system sure to be as popular among farmers as the International Sunday School Lessons are with the churches. It is designed for old and young. Send for this circular at once and join the class of ninety-five. The above four articles and the FARM, FIELD AND STOCKMAN ten weeks on trial for only ten cents. This offer is made to Farmers Only. It is your permanent subscription we are after, and we are sure, after this brief taste of so good a thing as the FARM, FIELD AND STOCKMAN is, you will renew. Should you not, the paper will be promptly stopped when the ten weeks are out.

FOR A CLUB OF 10 ten cents weekly trials, as above, a Cloth-bound Dictionary, 30,000 words; or Cooper's Leatherstocking Tales complete, five of the most charming stories ever written, will be sent free and postpaid.

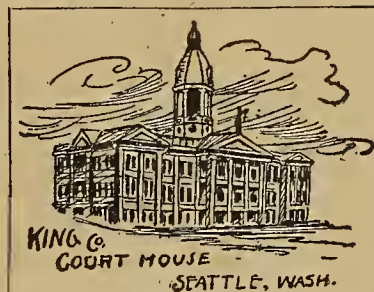
FOR A CLUB OF 20 as above, we will send, postpaid, our new "Horse, Cattle, Sheep and Swine Doctor," a complete, practical, fully illustrated treatise, bound in cloth, price \$1.50. Send for blanks and samples. Address the

FARM, FIELD AND STOCKMAN, CHICAGO, ILL.

A LOT FOR LOT'S WIFE

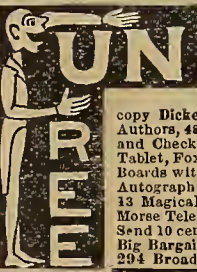
In order to get new subscribers, the Publishers of the West Shore Magazine will send it Six Months on trial for only 50 cts., P. O. stamps. The West Shore is the grandest and largest Magazine in the Northwest. It is 17 yrs. old, and its publishers have won a name for perfect honesty and square dealing. They are absolutely reliable and refer to any bank in their State. To introduce their Magazine they give away thousands of dollars in cash prizes to their new subscribers and Real Estate to a much greater value.

Any one who sends 50c. stamps for a trial subscription, before Jan. 1st, 1892, may send an answer to the following scriptural question: Where in the Holy Bible does it tell what Lot's Wife turned into? (Give chapter and verse.)



To the first one sending the correct answer to the above question we will give a Seattle Building Lot. Seattle is the largest city in the most promising State of the Union. Real Estate actually doubles in value every four years; so the lot we offer will constantly increase. The second one sending the correct answer will receive \$500 in gold. If there should be a third, it will entitle the sender to \$250 in gold. The fourth will receive \$100 in gold, and the fifth will receive \$50 in gold. If there should be any more correct answers, the next forty-five will receive \$25 in gold each, and the next fifty senders of correct answers will receive \$10 each. Thus we offer One Hundred Valuable Presents, which we will give away simply to introduce our great Magazine. The names of those who send the first correct answers will appear in the West Shore Magazine for Jan. 15th, 1892. As this offer is made only to new subscribers, be sure to enclose 50c. P. O. stamps, for a trial subscription, or no notice will be taken of your letter. If you can find the correct answer at once, you will be sure to get a present; even if not the first, you may be the second or third. Address

THE WEST SHORE CO.,
PIONEER PLACE,
SEATTLE, KING CO., WASH.



TO ALL PERSONS who send 10 cents in silver within the next 30 days, to help pay postage and packing, we will send a package containing all the following: One copy of Gulliver's Travels, a standard juvenile book. One copy Dickens's Christmas Stories, 1 Game of Authors, 44 cards, 1 Set of Dominoes, 1 Chess and Checker Board with men, 1 Mystic Age Table, Box and Chess and Nine Men, Morris Boards with men, 50 Choice Conundrums, 275 Autograph Album Selections, 11 Parlor Games, 13 Magical Experiments, Game of Fortune, Morse Telegraph Alphabet and 10 other games. Send 10 cents silver at once and receive this Big Bargain. Address GLEN ROVELLY CO., 294 Broadway, New York.

PINE VIEW.

Excellent investments; large plots \$10 upward. PINE VIEW COMPANY, 171 Broadway, N. Y.



MICAJAH'S WAFERS, endorsed by physicians as the best local remedy for Female Ailments. Easy to use, cleanly, and sure to cure. Two weeks' treatment free. Address, with stamp, **MICAJAH & CO., WARREN, PA.**

LADIES

Can work at home and earn good wages. C. W. CALKINS & CO., 52 Purchase Street, Boston, Mass.

DR. HOBBS' VEGETABLE PILLS. They are the best on Earth, gently stimulate and strengthen the Liver, Kidneys and Bowels; cleanse the system thoroughly; cure Headaches, Fevers, Colds, Habitual Constipation, Sick Headache, etc., and give perfect digestion. Sugar coated, do not gripe, very small, easy to take; purely vegetable. Recommended by leading physicians. REMEMBER, these presents are absolutely Given Away, to introduce Dr. Hobbs' Celebrated Pills. Any bank or business house in Chicago will endorse our reliability. This liberal offer is made solely to Advertise Dr. Hobbs' Celebrated Remedies. Perfect satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Pills sent to any address by mail. AGENTS WANTED. Dr. Hobbs' Remedies should be in every home. Immediately after Dec. 31st a printed list, giving names and addresses of successful contestants, will be mailed to every competitor. Dearborn & Harrison Sts., Chicago, Ill.

A SUCCESSFUL HUNTER

Always finds something good. Here it is.

FOR 10 CENTS in stamps, or otherwise, we will send the following good things, postpaid, to any address: First—the

Farm, Field and Stockman

The Banner Farmers' Paper of the World,

Ten weeks on trail. This is a sprightly wide-awake, condensed, practical, 24-page weekly Farm and Family Journal. Price \$1.00 a year, or \$1.10 with its Free Seed Distribution of 20 packets best seeds. Second—

A 24-PAGE PREMIUM LIST,

Handsomely illustrated, giving a list and full description of seeds in the free seed distribution, a large list of very liberal premiums for club raisers, and a list and description of the 350 Special Premiums consisting of articles and cash (value \$7,000) which we shall distribute May 1, 1892, to the 350 persons making up the 350 largest clubs. Third—a copy of

"HAYSEED IN HIS HAIR."

A racy humorous song and chorus with piano accompaniment, written for the FARM, FIELD AND STOCKMAN, illustrating the present uprising of farmers, particularly adapted to be sung in the lodge room, or at farmer's gatherings, picnics, etc. It is the best thing out. Price, twenty-five cents. Fourth—a copy of our

WHAT

A LARGE

PUBLISHING HOUSE GOING OUT OF THE BUSINESS

threw a great quantity of Music Books on the market; we were lucky enough way down here in Maine to secure the lot at almost nothing, and for this week will send one collection only to a person on receipt of six cents. When you consider that you are to receive over twelve dozen songs with music for a mere song, you will probably make haste to answer, as they won't last long, and you will probably find some piece in the lot that you have hunted high and low for, and would not sell for \$1.00, and, yes, "Comrades" is in it, also 144 other popular songs.

MORSE & CO.

Box 29,

AUGUSTA, ME.

Always mention Farm and Fireside.

\$1,000

In Cash Prizes, Gold Watches, Sewing

Machines, Silk Dresses, &c.,

FOR SOLVING THIS REBUS.



This rebus is a good motto for you to adopt. Rise early and send us your answer. If you are the first

WE WILL GIVE YOU \$200 IN CASH.

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Mention Farm and Fireside when you write.

Smiles.

HER YACHTING CAP.

Oh, the little yachting cap
That is lying in her lap,
Has a sort of fascination for poor me.
It is made of something white
And she wears it day and night,
Through the weeks she spends each summer
by the sea.

She can make of it a fan,
And, when necessary, cau
Hide her face behind it if she chance to blush.
It has carried caramels,
Chocolate drops and pretty shells,
And I've even seen her use it as a brush.

But still it has one fault
In my eyes—I'd better halt,
Had I not, and ponder well what I shall say?
She's darting warning glances—
Well—under certain circumstances
The visor's always getting in my way.

—Life.

EMILY AND THE BABY.

My home seems deserted, I'm lonely and sad,
I miss all the pleasures of home I once had;
I try to be cheerful, I fail to be glad,
Since Emily left home with the baby.

I sit in the rooms and I read and I write,
I whistle and sing, but the only delight
That is mine is to joyfully dream every night
Of Emily, who's gone with the baby.

It seems that a mother's sweet face I can see
As I dandle the baby in joy on my knee;
But no man was ever more lonesome than me
Since Emily's gone with the baby.

The house is a picture of silence and gloom,
As I walk through its halls that are still as a
tomb,

Like a crazy man, silently searching each room
For Emily, who's gone with the baby.

She has "gone to see ma," and it's many a mile;
Every day that she stays seems a terrible
while,

And I'll never be happy or able to smile
Until Emily comes home with the baby.

—Will S. Hays, in Louisville Times.

WANTED HIS RIGHTS.

SOME years ago a wealthy manufacturer in the West, employing nearly a thousand hands, established a "model" city, thus giving the workmen and their families many comforts and luxuries that they could not have attained unaided. Of course there were regulations to govern the model city, which, as a rule, were cheerfully observed.

There were fault-finders, however, and especially a new-comer named Bascomb. Among the rules was one forbidding the burning of soft coal, on account of the odor and smoke, and Bascomb objected strongly.

"My goodness!" remonstrated a friend. "I don't see what you're growling about. We get hard coal at cost, and as one ton goes as far as two of the other, you ain't out of pocket."

"Tain't right to forbid it," asserted Bascomb.

"See here," demanded his friend, "do you really want to burn the nasty stuff?"

"No, I don't want it," replied Bascomb, "but I want to have the right in case I want it."—*Youth's Companion.*

ONE WAY OUT OF IT.

A short man with red whiskers, shambling gait and the remains of a jag wandered into the Auditorium last evening and asked for a typewriter's studio. He lives in Indiana, not a million miles from Chicago, and has been here attending the races. Luck had walked on the same side of the street with him, and he wanted to stay another week. But his wife expected him home to-day, so he was in search of a typewriter to send home a letter to serve as an apology for his non-appearance.

"Chicago, this date, ninety-one," he muttered to the typewritist.

"I have that."

"My dear wife."

"Yes."

"Very important business will require my presence in Cheboygan."

"Let's see," interrupted the artist, "how do you spell that Cheboygan?"

"Spell it yourself. It's your own typewriter."

"I can't."

"Can't spell Cheboygan?" he asked with disgust.

"No."

"Then I'll go to St. Joe."—*Chicago Herald.*

ALMOST GAVE HIMSELF AWAY.

Stranger—"Can you tell me how to get to the farm of Mr. Seeds, who raises watermelons?"

Youthful native—"Yes, sir-ee! You jes' go up the creek bed back of the house and take the path up through the thicket, and crawl through a hole in the—er—er—come to think, don't much believe I know where he does live, mister."

A CASE OF DIRE NECESSITY.

Mrs. Kingly—"I see your church is going to send away your minister for three months. Isn't that a long time?"

Mrs. Bing—"Yes. But we need the rest."

NOT WHOLLY USELESS.

Gent (to one-legged darkey)—"Did you lose your leg in the army, uncle?"

Darkey—"No, sah. I done lose dat laig in de Baptis' cause, sah. I war ministerin' down in Carliny, an' tuk a sinner down inter de ribber ter 'neshiate 'im inter de church, an' 'long come oner dese yere mons'us big catfish an' 'stracted dat laig from the remains er my pusson."

Gent—"Indeed! That was a sad misfortune."

Darkey—"I was in dat erpinion myse'f at de time, sah, but dar was one good 'zult comin' f'om de same. Hit settled a p'int dat mer wife and me had differed 'bout fo' some time. She allers 'lowed dar warn't nuffin in the roun' worl' dat I war good fo', but atter dat she was bleegee' to own up dat I wuz mighty good fish-bait."—*Boston Courier.*

THE FINAL ANSWER.

"If this is your final answer, Miss Robinson," the young man said, with ill-concealed chagrin, as he picked up his bat and turned to go, "I can do nothing but submit. Yet, has it never occurred to you that when a lady passes the age of thirty-seven she is not likely to find herself as much sought after by desirable young men as she once was?"

"It occurred to me with sudden and painful distinctness when you offered yourself just now," she replied. "Good-night, Mr. Jones!"

"THE DRY LIGHT OF HISTORY."

Officer (breaking through the crowd)—"Say, how did this carriage get broken down?"

Mr. O. B. Server—"I saw the accident, and I suppose I know; but I'll be hanged if I'll make myself the historical critic of the fifty different theories I've heard!"

NOT WHOLLY WITHOUT EXCUSE.

De Haas—"Under the circumstances I don't know that it was exactly the right thing for me to make a speech; but still I don't think my conduct was unprecedented."

Balack—"That precedent was established in the time of Balaam."

A BUSINESS SUGGESTION.

Husband—"I save four dollars by buying that cigar by the box."

Wife—"Do you, Jack? How nice it would be if you would only buy five boxes right away, and give me the twenty dollars you save for a new dress."

NO GRIEF IN HIS.

"I am truly sorry, Johnny," said the friend of the family, meeting the little boy on the street, "to learn that your father's house was burned down yesterday. Was nothing saved?"

"Don't you waste no grief on me," replied Johnny. "All of paw's old clothes were burned up in that fire, and maw can't make any of 'em over for me this time. I'm all right."—*Troy Press.*

NO CHANCE FOR HIM.

Mr. Colde (to servant)—"I called here yesterday and you told me that your mistress couldn't see me until her pet dog was well. How is he getting on?"

Servant—"Miss Pugge told me to tell you if you called again, sir, that the poor, dear little fellow has the slow consumption."

BEFORE THE VENUS OF MILO.

"Oh, how shocking!"

"What?"

"That she has lost her arms."

"Yes, indeed; it is a great misfortune to art."

"So it is; that would have been a lovely figure to advertise my sixteen-button kid gloves on."

LITTLE BITS.

"Policeman," exclaimed the excited man his face fiery red with honest indignation, "for sweet humanity's sake, hurry! There's a gang of roughs running a dog fight over in that bar!" He was the proprietor of the under dog.—*Chicago Tribune.*

A class in natural history was called up for recitation. The teacher talked to them awhile about the relations of friendships between man and animals, and then asked a girl, "Do animals really possess the sentiment of affection?" "Yes, almost always," said the little girl. "And now," said the teacher, "tell me what animal has the greatest natural fondness for man?" "Woman!" said the boy.

Tourist—"That is an odd setting for a photograph gallery—a gaunt oak limb with a dangling noose and a background of a howling mob." Oklahoma photographer—"That's a little invention of my own. Lots of newcomers from the east have their pictures taken with that noose around their necks, to send back where they came from. It is cheaper than paying their debts and easier than getting a divorce."—*Brooklyn Life.*

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An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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IOWA.—(Kansas) Bulletin No. 14, August, 1891. Effect of feed upon the quality of milk. Calf feeding experiment. A feeding experiment for milk. Hog Experiment No. 1. Reports on entomological work. Breeding of the orchard and garden fruits. An aphous affection among the dairy cows of the state.

KANSAS.—(Manhattan) Bulletin No. 21, August, 1891. Second report on fungicides for stinking smut of wheat. Bulletin No. 22, August, 1891. Smut of oats in 1891. Test of fungicides to prevent loose smut of wheat. Spraying to prevent wheat smut.

MARYLAND.—(College Park) Third annual report, for 1890.

MASSACHUSETTS.—(State Station, Amherst) Bulletin No. 41, September, 1891. Weather record, July and August, 1891. Analyses of commercial fertilizers. Feeding experiments with milk cows.

MINNESOTA.—(St. Anthony Park) Bulletin No. 17, August, 1891. Migratory locusts in Minnesota in 1891. Bulletin No. 18, September, 1891. Notes on strawberries, raspberries, and cherries, buffalo berry and Russian mulberry. Evergreens from seed. Summer propagation of hardy plants.

NEW YORK.—(Cornell Station, Ithaca) Bulletin No. 29, July, 1891. Cream raising by dilution. The effect of delay in setting on the efficiency of creaming. Application of Dr. Babcock's centrifugal method to the analysis of milk, skim-milk, buttermilk and butter. The relation of fibrin to the effectual creaming of milk. Bulletin No. 30, August, 1891. Some preliminary studies on the influence of the electric arc lamp upon greenhouse plants. Bulletin No. 31, September, 1891. The forcing of English cucumbers.

NORTH CAROLINA.—(Raleigh) Bulletin No. 77. The injury of foliage by arsenites. A cheap arsenite. Combination of arsenites with fungicides. Bulletin No. 79, July 20, 1891. Facts for farmers; a bulletin of information on scientific matters in plain language, for unscientific farmers.

OHIO.—(Columbus) Bulletin No. 5, Volume 4. The wheat midge.

RHODE ISLAND.—(Kingston) Bulletin No. 10, May, 1891. Mixed feed in cases of faulty appetite in horses and neat stock, including notice of patented and proprietary foods. Sore shoulders in horses.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—(Fort Hill) Bulletin No. 1, July 1, 1891. Analyses of commercial fertilizers.

VERMONT.—(Burlington) Bulletin No. 26, September, 1891. Maple sugar.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, OFFICE OF EXPERIMENT STATIONS.—(Washington, D. C.) Proceedings of the fourth annual convention of the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations. Experiment Station Record. Volume 3, No. 1, August, 1891.

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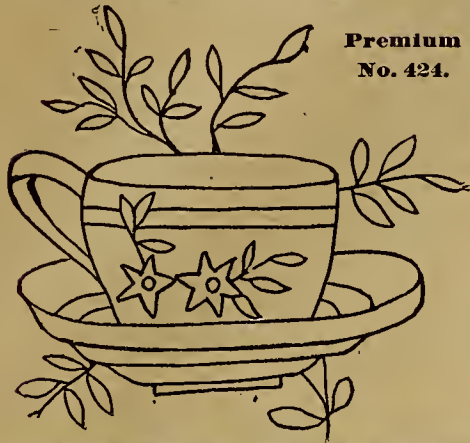
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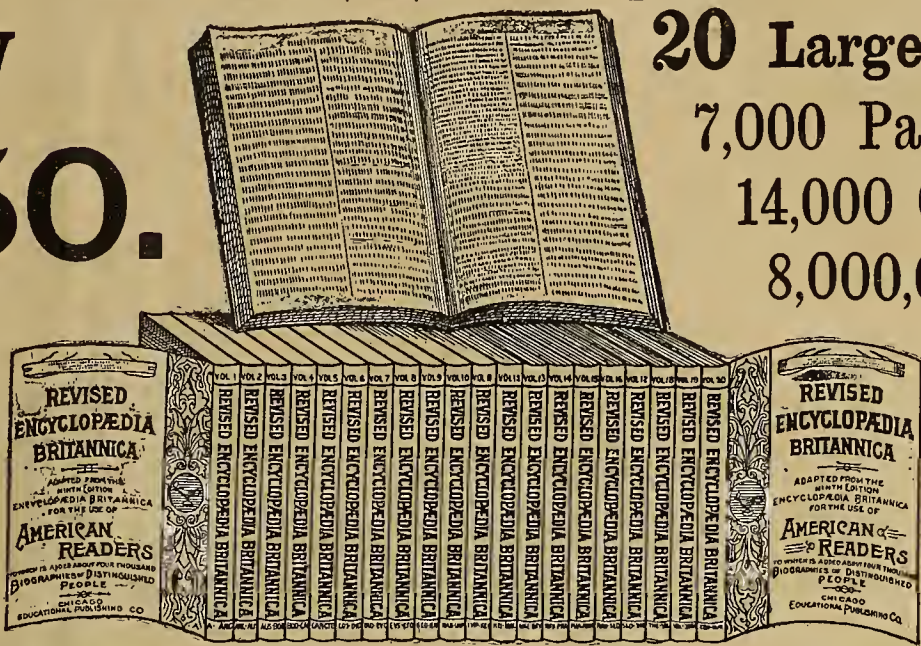
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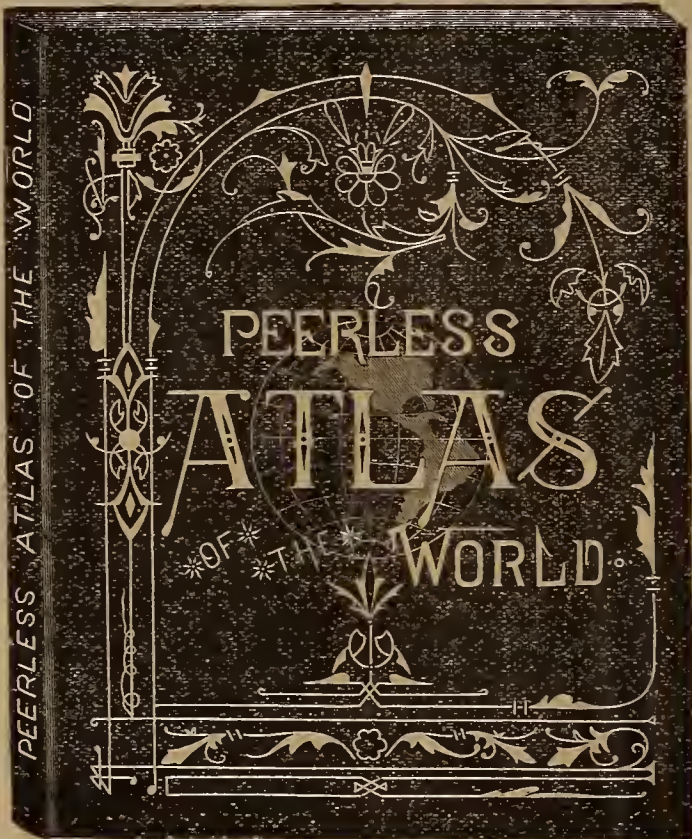
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Be gone dull care
Bell Brandon
Ben Bolt
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Chevalier's lament
Clare de kitchen
Coal black rose
Colleen Bawn
Come back to Erin
Concealment
Daddy the blast
Dearest Mae
Departed days
Dermot Astore
Ding, dong, bell
Don't come late
Dream is past
Emerald Isle
Ever of thee
Fairy tempter
Farwell ladies
Farmer's boy
Finigan's wake
Flee as a bird
Flying trapeze
Garibaldi hymn
Ginger's wedding
Girls and boys
Give a kiss to me
Green sleeves
Gumbo cabbie
Hail Columbia
Happy thought
Highland Mary

In the starlight
I wish you well
I won't be a nun
Jim along Josey
Jim Brown
Jim crick corn
Jim Crow
Johnnie Cope
Johnny Sands
Jolly darkey
Jolly ragsman
Jonny Boker
Juanita
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Katie's letter
Killarney
Kitty of Coleraine
Knight errant
Lancashire lass
Lanigan's ball
Law
Life let us cherish
Little barefoot
Little bo-peep
Little boy blue
Little sunbeam
Long tail blue
Long, weary day
Louisiana belle

I Whistle and Wait for Katie
Little Fisher Maiden
Katie darling
Lilly Dale
Lottie Bell
Lorelei
Mary Blane
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Nelly Gray
Old Dan Tucker
Old Grimes
Old Ireland for'er
Old Joe
Old King Cole
Old King Crow
Old kitchen clock
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Old oaken bucket
Old Tubal Cain
Ole gray goose
Ole pee de
O Mr. Coon
Origin of the harp
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Over there
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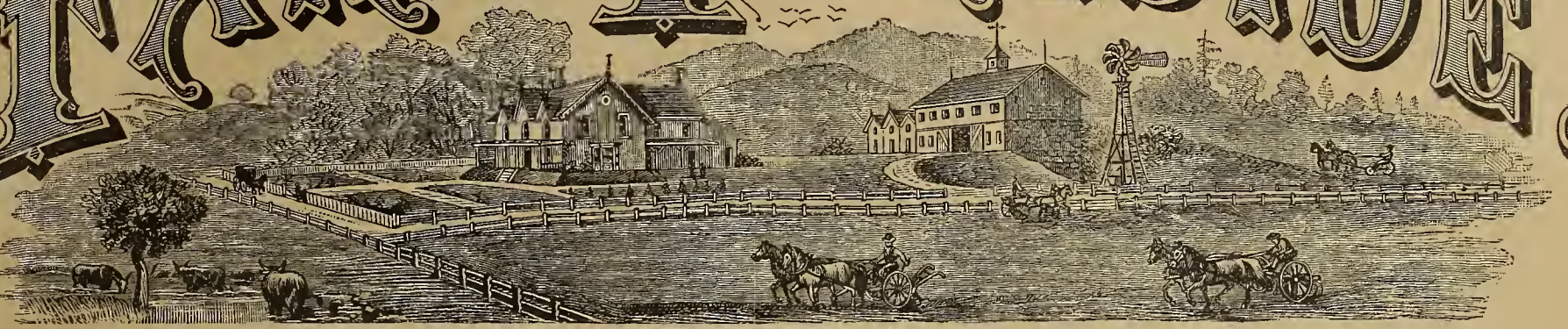
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Current Comment.

THE Rural New Yorker, commenting on the "drink business," says: "Below we give the statistics as furnished by the government. The first column shows the gallons of intoxicants of all sorts consumed in this country in the past five years. These include wines, malt liquors and distilled spirits. The other column gives the amounts of grain used in the manufacture of this stuff. These grains are wheat, rye, corn, barley, oats and different mill feeds. About 75 per cent of the total grain is corn.

LIQUORS CONSUMED.		GRAIN USED FOR LIQUOR.	
	Gallons.		Bushels.
1886	740,796,554	1886	19,098,332
1887	821,038,648	1887	17,959,565
1888	879,767,476	1888	16,122,509
1889	894,655,061	1889	20,990,924
1890	972,578,878	1890	25,202,901

"This liquor averages at retail considerably over \$1 per gallon, including beer, wines and whiskey. In other words, Americans spent more than \$1,000,000,000 for liquor. Just compare this with a few other items of national importance:

Value of liquor consumed in one year	\$1,000,000,000
Total exports for 1890	\$ 845,293,828
Total income on all American railroads (1889)	964,816,129
Total value of corn crop (1890)	754,433,451
Total value of wheat crop (1890)	334,773,678
Total value of all cereals (1890)	1,320,255,398
Total income for telegraph service	22,389,029

"Is there any reason why this drink question is not a bigger one than the tariff, 'free silver,' income tax, 'world's fair,' or any other since the days of slavery? This is entirely aside from any sentimental or moral view of the case. From a purely economical standpoint—a matter of hard dollars and cents—it is the greatest question of the age. Those men who argue that the liquor business provides a needed market for our grain, had better consider this proposition. In 1890 the rum sellers used 20,310 bushels of wheat, 4,542,845 bushels of rye, 32,690 bushels of oats, and 17,806,612 bushels of corn. They produced, in 1890, 45,830,361 gallons of whiskey, 1,657,808 of rum, 1,202,940 of gin and 11,354,448 of alcohol. The wholesale price of a gallon of whiskey is now about \$1.20. Now just figure out what a blessed privilege it is to sell grain to these rum sellers!"

To the foregoing it may be added that taxation, national, state, county, township and municipal combined, is estimated at \$15 per capita, and amounts to nearly \$950,000,000. But this enormous sum is not as great as that wasted in drink. Taxation is a blessing mixed with some evils. Drink is an unmixed curse. The expense of the drink business begins with the one billion. Taxation ends with the 950 millions. But in spite of the facts, there are

a hundred men complaining about the burdens of taxation where there are ten complaining about the burdens of the drink business.

The Chicago prices for 1890 were, wheat, \$1; rye, 65 cents; oats, 38; and corn, 45. Figured at these prices, the 22,592,497 bushels of cereals used in 1890 in the manufacture of whiskey, rum and alcohol, brought \$10,987,335.81. It is safe to say that agriculture would be money in pocket if, in return for being relieved from the expense imposed upon it by the drink business, it would let that grain rot in the fields.

IN many respects Ohio's first experiment with the Australian system of voting was a decided success. In the large cities, where so many of the polling places are usually infested with the buyers and sellers of votes, there was a remarkable difference. The ward bosses, the blocks-of-five captains and the two-dollar voters were conspicuously absent, and the voting proceeded in an orderly, business-like way. Indeed, the improvement was so great that women, if they had been permitted to vote, would have had no more hesitation about walking into a polling booth than into a dry goods store.

On the other hand, many thousand voters in this state marked their ballots incorrectly. Instead of putting the cross mark before the name of the ticket they intended to vote straight, they put it before the name of the candidate for governor, and by so doing voted for him alone. But they will have several months in which to learn better before the next election, and it is to be hoped that they will improve the opportunity.

THE efforts of the post-office department to extend postal facilities by establishing the free delivery system in country towns have received the hearty endorsement of the press. The postmaster general has announced that the experiment provided for by the last Congress is a complete success. The experiment of the free delivery system in country towns, now being made, has more than realized the hopes of the projectors. So far as results have been reported, the increase of revenue more than paid all the increased expense. This assures the rapid extension of the free delivery system to country districts. Through the columns of the American Agriculturist the postmaster general says:

When a town grows to 10,000 population and puts down footwalks and puts up numbers on the houses, the Post-office Department is authorized by act of Congress to establish a carrier service to deliver mail matter at the doors of houses and offices. As the town increases, postal stations are established. Thus the postal service keeps pace with the growth of the town. While all this postal work is going on at the thickly populated points, the farmers, quarrymen, blacksmiths, millers and artisans, all paying the regulation rates of postage, are left to get their mail as best they can from the post-office in the village or at the railway station.

To carry letters, newspapers and magazines and leave them in an office remote from the home, to be called for, is only a partial fulfillment of the duty of the department. With the well-paid railroads, star-route contractors and mail messengers traversing every highway to the uttermost nook and corner of the land, there ought to be some practical way to utilize all these forces and spread the house-to-house delivery over almost every square mile

of this great country. I firmly believe that when such a scheme is in proper operation for a year, it will be proven that the increase of revenue will fully counterbalance the necessary expenditure.

A long forward stride would be made in the postal service if the next Congress could find time to consider what are commonly regarded as the little things of the post-office department, but which are really the necessary and almost all-important touch of the largest department of the government upon the comfort and progress of all the families of the country, as well as of every business enterprise, great and small.

SINCE the passage of the Bland-Allison act in 1878, the government has purchased over \$450,000,000 of silver bullion. The price has fluctuated considerably, but the average is about seventy-nine cents for the bullion in each silver dollar. Some of this bullion has been coined into standard silver dollars. On the most of it silver certificates and treasury notes have been issued. The seniorage of twenty-one cents on the dollar, amounting in all to more than \$67,000,000, is in the United States treasury. Therefore, every standard silver dollar represents a dollar's worth of silver bullion. It contains seventy-nine cent's worth and has behind it twenty-one cent's worth more in the public treasury. And every dollar note now issued on silver represents a dollar's worth of bullion.

Under unlimited, free silver coinage what would happen? First, the seniorage of twenty-one cents on the dollar, or whatever it may be, would go into the pockets of the few hundred silver mine owners. The farmer and wage earner could not possibly receive any benefit from that. Second, silver would either advance to par with gold, or we would have a depreciated currency, and gold would go to a premium, and prices of commodities and products would follow. If silver bullion advances, the silver producers pocket the advance. If gold goes to a premium and prices follow, the farmer would receive no benefit, for a bushel of wheat or a barrel of pork will buy no more on the silver basis than it does on the gold basis. The wage earner would be a loser until he could get his wages raised to correspond with the nominal advance in prices. And as wages are the last to raise, he would be a heavy loser. Who would be benefited by a depreciated currency? The debtor. It would enable him to scale down his debts and make it much easier for him to pay them. But every bank is a debtor to its depositors, many of whom are wage earners. Where one part of them would gain, another part would lose. There is a question that has not yet been answered. What honest debtor wants to repudiate his debt or any part of it? Another, is it worth while to help the other kind?

COMMENTING on the People's party convention held in Springfield last August, FARM AND FIRESIDE said:

"There were very few opposing votes to any plank in this remarkable conglomeration of greenbackism and nationalism. The delegates were earnest, enthusiastic, and doubtless the most of them were honest. The farmers seemed to be in the majority, but it was clearly evident to every candid observer of the proceedings that the convention was controlled from platform and floor by leaders of labor

organizations and resurrected politicians of the old greenback party, and that the farmers were 'not in it.'

"Judging from the speeches made, from the approving applause of the delegates, and from all the actions of the convention, the political movement which it represents is nothing more or less than a revival of greenbackism. The chief demand of this new party is the unlimited issue of fiat money by the government, to be loaned at two per cent or less on 'real estate, or other ample security,' through an army of political brokers. The financial plank, involving inflation, depreciation and repudiation, is the main one of the platform."

The Ohio election returns show very conclusively that the farmers were "not in it" when it came to voting the ticket of the new party. They remained true to their respective old parties. They have emphatically repudiated the fiat money and land-loan schemes. They have laughed at the futile efforts of the calamity-croaking demagogues to make them believe that the value of their lands had shrunk \$200,000,000 in the past ten years, because, for the purpose of equalizing taxation, the last decennial appraisal was that much less. The fact was before them that the farms sold in 1890 brought more money per acre than the farms sold in 1880.

The farmers of Ohio have greatly disappointed the hopes of the political freaks who stumped the state for the purpose of getting them to endorse their wild schemes. By another year the political Alliance will be a thing of the past.

THE money question is a business one. It is not strictly a party issue. Neither the Republican or Democratic party is united on it. In some of the western states both endorse free silver coinage. In Ohio, one endorses it and the other opposes it. In the eastern states both oppose it. In Massachusetts, for example, there is an earnest rivalry between them as to which is the more orthodox on the money question. Therefore, what we have to say on the subject is not to be taken as partisan.

The fight on the money question has, in a notable instance, become a personal one. The advocates of free silver coinage, the advocates of fiat money, and the advocates of all the new-fangled financial schemes, have combined in a relentless warfare on Senator John Sherman. Standing, as he has done for years past, the foremost defender of sound money, the fight has been concentrated on him with the object of encompassing his defeat for re-election to the Senate of the United States. The opposition is not confined by state or even party lines, but comes from all the opponents of a sound financial system.

One of the duties of the next Ohio Legislature is the election of a United States senator. As the Republicans will have a large majority in the legislature, they will name the man. The best thing they can do is to re-elect John Sherman. In the United States Senate he represents much more than the state of Ohio. He represents the nation in the cause of honest money and sound finance. His re-election is more than a state affair; it is a national one. The nation expects it. The Ohio Legislature will fail in its duty to the state and the nation if it does not re-elect Senator John Sherman.

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Our Farm.

SOME TELLING FERTILIZER TESTS.

BY JOSEPH (T. GREINER.)



In bulletin No. 3, Vol. IV, of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Messrs. Chas. E. Thorne, director, and J. Fremont Hickman, agriculturist, tell the results of plat experiments with fertilizers on wheat made at the station grounds and at Rothamsted. In the summary it is stated that, "when nitrate of soda was used alone, its cost was recovered in the increase of crop, counting wheat at \$1 per bushel, but in no other case in the station test was the cost of any of the fertilizers or combinations of fertilizers recovered, except in that of barn-yard manure.

"In the test in Columbiana county the increase of crop on plat 2 apparently justified the use of superphosphate. But this increase was not confirmed by the duplicate plats 5 and 8; hence, we are led to doubt whether this increase may not have been due to natural superiority in the soil of the plat. In general, the fertilizers added less to the unaided yield of the Columbiana county soil than they did to that of the station soil, notwithstanding the fact that the unfertilized plats on the station farm yielded twice as much wheat on an average as did those on the farm in Columbiana county.

"In the tests at the station the fertilizers have, in every case, caused a decrease of crop where superphosphate was used. Nitrate of soda alone, or with potash, has produced a slight increase, but in no case has the increase been sufficient to justify the use of the fertilizer, and this applies both to the wheat grown continuously on the same soil and to that grown in rotation.

"In the tests of 1891 the wheat grown in rotation, without fertilizers, has yielded as large an average crop as the best obtained from the use of the fertilizers in 1890, although the yield from the unfertilized plats under continuous cropping was practically the same in both seasons." Here we have testimony that appears conclusive. This matter is of the utmost importance to every farmer. It involves the question whether he can afford to use fertilizers or not. The experiments made at the station and their results give us little consolation. They seem to prove that commercial fertilizers are a delusion and a snare, a bill of expense to the farmer, without adequate compensation. The outcome is not one over which the farmer can rejoice.

Fortunately, so far as my own senti-

ments in the matter are concerned, I can get consolation from the results of my own experience and experiments—results which differ very materially from those made at the station and which are far more satisfactory. I believe in stable manure. I am sure that in many cases it is by far the cheapest source of plant foods purchasable. In many places a load worth not less than \$2, at prices of plant foods in open market, can be had for 50 cents. In such cases, I am a very enthusiastic advocate of the use of stable manure.

On the other hand, I would not wish to be deprived of the chance to use concentrated manures, such as phosphates, nitrates, potash salts or manufactured manures. While in New Jersey, I have raised magnificent and paying garden crops on soil of quite indifferent fertility, by the almost exclusive use of concentrated fertilizers. The effects there of these applications were striking. I have used fertilizers, more or less, for fifteen years and I have seldom failed to see good effects from their use. On the whole, I feel well compensated for the outlay. I have to confess, however, that I have never used such fertilizers on what is called "stiff clay soil" to an extent large enough to tell me whether they would pay or not.

It is simply a question of letting the manure fit the soil and crop. If used in their place, fertilizers will pay; otherwise, we apply them at our own risk.

At a former occasion, I mentioned that grain crops remove phosphoric acid from the soil faster than potash or nitrates. On thousands of farms, wheat and oats and barley have been the principal crops grown and marketed, and stable manure the only returns made to the land for the plant foods removed. Consequently, the supply of phosphoric acid in the soil becomes scarce while the other plant foods are yet in fair supply. In such case, I would try applications of simple phosphates or superphosphates.

This spring I concluded to put this "theory" to the test. In the first place we selected a piece of land that had been cropped with grain for generations, perhaps, and never received any other dressing but an occasional light coat of barn-yard manure and a little land-plaster. This field was divided in strips, lengthwise. One strip received a top dressing of 200 pounds of acid phosphate; strips on each side of it were left without fertilizer. Another strip was top dressed with Thomas slag, the quantity intended to be 100 pounds per acre, but as this material is nearly twice as heavy, bulk for bulk, as the acid phosphate, the quantity applied was probably nearer 200 pounds per acre. On each side of this strip again were unfertilized strips.

The cost of the application in each case was less than \$2 per acre, and the whole test was made at an eight or ten acre scale. The whole field was sown to buckwheat, although my instructions had been to sow it to oats or barley, but circumstances seemed to make a change necessary.

The neighbors, who, at first, felt inclined to poke fun at us on account of the unsignified applications, found a surprise in store for them. Indeed, the results were striking. I visited the field in August. The unfertilized plats did not have enough growth on them to be worth cutting, the land being so utterly exhausted; the fertilized strips evidently had a good crop, for the growth was tall and thrifty, plants entirely covered with bloom and "filling" nicely. The crop has not yet been threshed. This has proven an object lesson to the neighbors. It was a maximum result with a minimum of cost—the difference between application of \$2 worth or less of fertilizer per acre, and no manure, was the difference between a good crop and none.

Whatever the Ohio station may conclude in regard to the profitability of applying fertilizers, all who have observed this experiment say there is money in such applications, and you may be sure more superphosphate will be used on the same farm next season.

SOME SEASONABLE HINTS TO SHEEP OWNERS.

Sheep will soon be in winter quarters in the northern states. During the summer they have had a wide range and each could find room enough and, perhaps, food enough, without disadvantage to the

weaker members of the flock. When they come to the yards and sheds the stronger will crowd the weaker into undesirable corners and away from the racks, grain and water-troughs. As in more civilized life the strong will then become stronger and the weak will become weaker. A most rigid selection of the flock should be given. If there should be any old and feeble ewes they should now receive attention. It is not always that a thin ewe will not pay well to retain in the flock. Having been suckled poor by a strong, vigorous lamb, maybe a pair of lambs, she may appear much worse than she really is. All such should be separated for a time and receive special attention and grain rations. As a rule, to new beginners especially, I would say keep only the best, as none are too good. Let others nurse the old and feeble. Give your time and food to those sheep that can pay for it. Grade the flock and place in bauds by themselves. Each band will look much better for it. The breeding ewes should be rapidly recuperated and gotten into booming condition for the coupling. This will not alone insure the ewe coming into heat earlier, but will do much toward insuring a strong, vigorous lamb next spring. The period of gestation is about 150 days. The time to begin pushing a lamb, then, should begin on full rations the day it is conceived, or 150 days before it is born. Not less important is the proper condition of the ram of the flock. His health and vigor should be well considered. Nothing can be less satisfactory than an effeminate, impotent, unreliable ram. The chances are there will be a short crop of lambs, or a lot of feeble, bloodless lambs that can never amount to anything. Many a sheep owner has hesitated and finally concluded to risk a ram that his better judgment condemned at the start. Is there a doubt about it? Now is the time to decide. The using the ram at coupling time should be worthy of some consideration. Some breeders find it to their advantage to use a *teaser* in the ewe flock. As fast as the ewes are singled out they are placed apart from the flock and given to the ram for a single service and put away from the flock for twenty-four hours, when they will be past their humor for twelve or fourteen days if they are not with lamb. Stronger and more lambs can be secured from a ram treated thus than any other way. If the flock is a small one, or if time is too considerable to be given to the work, the ram may be introduced to the ewe flock at dark and removed the next morning when the ewes are turned to pasture. This gives the ram time to eat and rest, and will secure a vigorous lot of lambs usually. Others turn the ram with the ewes and let him serve perhaps one ewe as often as he can. This is very unnecessary, since once is sufficient. Thus handled, the later lambs will often be feeble. The lamb drop will be irregular. Make a memorandum of the time the ram is introduced into the flock, so it may be known to a day when to look for arrivals of lambs. Mortifying losses may thus be avoided at the end of gestation. Where two or more rams are used, it is well to use some mark upon the ewe so as to know the get of each ram. Some value may thus be given a ram that otherwise would not be known. All this requires some little time and thought, but will amply repay the trouble.

The weanling lambs should not be forgotten. If they have not learned to eat dry food, no time is to be lost in their education. It is certain they must learn to eat or be stunted in their growth. It is important that they begin very slowly and gradually become accustomed to full feeds. They should find some light, sweet food in their troughs every night, such as wheat bran with some oats or a little corn in the mixture. Let this ration be regular and always fresh, since they are very fastidious in their notions of cleanliness.

It is hard to imagine how a flock of sheep can be well cared for without some shelter from the storms of winter, and rains during the summer. This shelter should be large enough to hold the flock comfortably, and in every case should be airy and clean.

A flock of sheep well fed and protected may be comfortable, without which they would not be profitable. The sheep man

that neglects or ignores the personal comfort of his flock should go out and take the weather with the flock or quit the business. No reasonable, humane man can love himself so well as when his sheep are safe and cozy in their sheds during a winter's night, especially if stormy. If these arrangements are not provided already, it is well to think and set about it now. It is perfectly plain to all that the American sheep man must do his level best, both as a shepherd and as a business man. A well-cared-for, healthy flock will be exempt from so many ailments and mishaps. Such a flock will pay for all their food and lodging and leave a surplus to its owner. There need be no uncertainty about it.

These observations and precautions particularly apply to regions similar to where I have handled sheep, but may apply equally to almost any regions of the United States. It is certain that negligence and carelessness have led to grave losses and serious disappointments in all countries. Much of this should have been avoided, and could have been by forethought and industry. Many, if not all the failures in profitable sheep husbandry, are subject to remedies within the reach of all. They may be classed under the head of breeding, feeding, management and selling wisely.

R. M. BELL.

PUTTING UP ICE.

Ice is almost indispensable to the dairyman for bringing his milk and cream to and keeping them at the proper temperature. Aside from its use in the dairy, ice is a luxury which well repays all the cost of putting it up, and the wonder is that so few farmers lay in a liberal stock. Ice can be kept in the simplest kind of a structure. The essential conditions are that it shall be closely packed in a mass, that there shall be no air spaces at the bottom, that it shall be surrounded (packed in) by a good non-conducting material in sufficient quantity, that it shall have a tight roof to exclude rain, and that ventilation is provided.

A cheap, board building, with the cracks battened, answers about as well as a costly structure, with double walls filled in. The keeping of the ice does not depend so much upon the walls of the building as upon the kind and amount of material with which it is packed. Sawdust or dry tan bark furnish the best packing materials. But these, in many localities, are difficult to obtain. Next to these, dry-cut straw or chaff is probably the best, and almost any farm can furnish the straw. Cut straw is better than whole, because it packs closer and makes a better non-conductor, though whole straw is often successfully used. In the latter case, the space for filling between the pile of ice and the walls of the building needs to be wider than if cut straw were used. In case cut straw is used we would leave a space of sixteen inches for filling, but with whole straw of two feet. The sills of the building should rest on the ground or on a wall built for them, allowing no air to enter underneath. We would lay tile a foot below the surface inside, with its outlet some distance away, to keep the bottom dry, but tile should not open into the building to admit air. A foundation of at least a foot deep of the packing material—sawdust, tan or straw—should be laid over the bottom on which to build the pile of ice, and the blocks should be cut as nearly as possible of uniform size so as to pack closely, and it is well to go over each layer as it is put in, and fill all cracks with pounded ice so as to make the pile as near solid as possible. When the pile is finished, or as it progresses, the filling between it and the sides of the building should be made and tramped down as solidly as possible and a covering of at least two feet in depth be made over all. Ventilation should be provided for by openings in the gables, or a ventilating shaft going up through the roof to permit the escape of the moist air which gathers above the ice. The door should be, for convenience, made in two sections, an upper and lower, with boards laid across on the inside of the frame holding the packing material in place.

The proper size depends upon the amount of ice that will be required. Ice will measure about forty cubic feet to the ton, and ten tons would be a liberal supply for family use. This would be equivalent to a pile 8 feet long, 8 feet wide and

6½ feet high. If we allow two feet on all sides for packing space, the building to hold this amount in the form above given would need to be 12x12 feet with nine-foot posts. A door in the gable would be needed for putting in the top layers and taking out ice early in the season. As cheap and good a way for a cheap building would be to set posts in the ground, three on a side (except the end where the doors are), with 2x4 for plate and middle and bottom girths, and board up, down and batten, banking up at the bottom to exclude air. The roof should project considerably on all sides, so as to shade the sides, and if it could be built under the shade of trees it would be all the better. When expense is no object, and a permanent structure is desired, a brick or stone foundation should be put in on which to lay the sills, which should be bedded in mortar, and double walls can be made by using 2x8 or 2x12 for studding, and filling the space between the outside and inside boarding. Ice should be cut and put up only in freezing weather. If cut and handled when the temperature is above freezing, the blocks splinter and crack, and its keeping qualities are considerably injured.—*New England Farmer.*

AMATEUR PEACH CULTURE.

At a recent horticultural exhibition a fruit-grower showed twenty varieties of natural peaches, grown from the seed without grafting, all excellent and some of them of extraordinary size and beauty. The peaches were raised in latitude 41 and longitude 71.

When is considered the ease and inexpensiveness of raising peaches, it is a wonder that every man and every woman who has access to a patch of earth in middle latitude does not raise them. Half of the population might have its own peach orchard, and have not only peaches, but also shade and ornament for garden and lawn, outdoor exercise and mind relief. Whatever lifts the daily burden from the mind prolongs life.

During the past summer peaches have been abundant, and a large number of stones have been saved, for whoever is interested in peach culture never throws away a peach-pit. But as cheap as peaches may be—four quarts for a quarter—the peach from one's own tree is different fruit. The raising of peaches is simple and inexpensive. Cast the pits into the ground, and the earth, sun and rain will do the rest. If sown in the spring the pits must be cracked; if in the fall, the frost will open them.

Sow the pits in trenches, the pits a foot apart, where the trees may stand till three or four feet high. Then transplant. If pits be sown every year, then trees will come to bearing every year in regular succession. There is great pleasure and delight in it. The rapid growth of the tree is watched carefully, and when blooming time comes, the fruit forms and begins to expand, the interest increases. What will the fruit be like? What color, shape, flavor? Whatever it may be, it will be different from any peach in the world—new fruit absolutely.

There is nothing in agriculture more interesting, or profitable in many ways, than peach culture. And fruit—fresh fruit! It is the world's best medicine and antidote. GEO. APPLETON.

SOME ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS.

Because one lives in the country, surrounded by nature and all its beauty and attractiveness, is no reason why the home should not be rendered still more attractive by the cultivation of some shrubs that are not natives of the soil.

Few farmers can enjoy the luxury of a greenhouse or conservatory, but with a fair degree of energy developed by some member of the family, almost any home can enjoy what may be termed the window garden in winter, which may be transferred to the lawn or front yard in summer.

Only a few plants, properly arranged, add very much to the cheerful, home-like appearance of a place and well repay for the little labor required in their attentions. We will mention two or three plants of the shrub variety that are exceedingly ornamental and beautiful during summer. One of these is old, but, unlike many other things, loses none of its beauty or interest, because it has come down from the past.

The Hydrangea was much thought of

by the generations of long ago and for a time became almost neglected and forgotten, but now its desirableness is recognized and the cultivation is becoming more general. Its very large leaves, especially so when vigorously grown, are a beauty even without blossoms, but when covered with its large clusters, globular shaped, literally making one combined mass of flowers, its attractiveness can be appreciated. It is by no means difficult of cultivation, only requiring a good soil, but in winter it requires some protection. In the early part of the season it will commence to develop blossoms, which are at the terminals of each branch of growth and continue until everyone is supplied. We have a small plant that, this season, had over fifty blossoms. The plant was kept supplied with manure water, which was no little aid to fine development.

Another shrub is the Hibiscus. The variety we have gives large, dark red blossoms of large size. The leaves of this plant are very dark green and glossy, and with the multitude of buds and blossoms that good attention will secure, renders it a very showy plant. This, in winter, should be kept in a room of comfortable temperature and have a rich soil. Being sensitive to cold and sudden changes, it should not be put out of doors until the temperature is fairly settled and reasonably warm. It will commence to bloom in midsummer and continue through the season. We have several of these showy plants upon our lawn that have been exceedingly rich in bloom a good portion of the summer. At one time upon one of the smaller plants we counted over one hundred buds and blossoms fully expanded, and upon one of much larger size we believe more than one hundred and fifty could be counted.

The Amaryllis is another plant of the lily tribe that possesses great beauty in its bloom and no great amount of attention.

View a home with these attractions and then contrast it with those that are barren of such delightful fruits of labor.

Connecticut.

WM. H. YEOMANS.

RANDOM THOUGHTS.

Our German neighbor has sound ideas with regard to farming, and is not one of the kind that are continually sending forth the wailing cry of "farming don't pay."

Only about three or four years ago he purchased a badly run-down farm; one of the kind that is found in New England, where the owner is left to cultivate as best he can in his old age.

With the strength and determination of youth he entered upon the work of reclaiming the old farm, which, with its numerous acres, was able to carry but little stock. There was but little manure to start with, "But," said he, "I will plow up my ground and plant corn; I will plant it a long ways apart, and so I will get the ground cultivated with my little manure and I will get a fair crop. Then I will get some fodder and can keep more stock, make more manure and next year I can do better by it, and by and by I will get my fields so that they will cut bog-grass."

He plowed old pasture fields that had not been plowed for years and cropped to rye, and secured a good crop. When he went to market he would bring home a load of manure, and in this way increase the supply of his plant food. He has more than doubled the number of his animals, and can even now cut much more hay than when he took the place. He is a farmer that understands his business, and gets at the bottom of ways and means that lead to success. It is a pleasure to notice the direction of labor of one when guided by intelligence, and to mark the degree of success.

We have always been free in the expression of the opinion of the great superiority of such manures as are made upon the farm over any form of commercial fertilizer that is exclusively mineral in its character, and our observation and experience confirms us in such belief.

We have watched with no little interest the result of an exclusive use of superphosphate in the cultivation of crops, and though during its use perhaps the crop might be reasonably satisfactory, when, as is the case, there is a final seeding down to grass with grain, the grain crop is almost a failure, and the same is

true of the subsequent crop grass, in striking contrast with the bountiful crop of grain and liberal yield of grass from fields treated with farm manure, we conclude there is something wrong.

In the course of our treatment of experiments with mineral fertilizers, we brought into use a pasture of only moderate fertility, but which had a good grass soil at the time of plowing. We are now in the second year from the completion of the experiment, and the soil is incapable of producing much grass, being destitute of sod.

We have watched closely the effect of the almost exclusive use of mineral fertilizers, and final results have almost invariably been decidedly unfavorable.

We are not prepared to say that crops may not be satisfactorily grown year after year from the same soil by the exclusive use of mineral fertilizers, but we do believe that such a course tends to such a changed condition of the soil as is unfavorable to the future growth of grass crops.

Humus appears to be a valuable adjunct to cultivation, to say the least, and as it diminishes in a soil, the productive power of the soil seems to diminish, and it is a notable fact that in grass production the power seems to be measured quite largely by the extent of humus in the soil that is indicated by the black or dark color of an overturned sod.

We have no quarrel with those who believe that mineral manures are the all-in-all to the farmer; we simply base our views upon experience and observation, and when we can get manure we shall do so every time, and then if we wish to use a stimulant or starter in the shape of some commercial article we shall do so.

We are fully satisfied there is yet much to be learned regarding all kinds of fertilizers.

WM. H. YEOMANS.

Connecticut.

CAN RICHNESS BE FED INTO MILK?

Several practical answers are made to this question in various experiments tried at the Vermont station in 1890. One designed to test the "effect of heavy feeding of grains on the quantity and quality of milk" was tried with three cows; two, Betsey and Dinah, were fed as nearly alike as possible throughout the test. "Betsey" shrunk one third of her yield in two months in spite of heavy grain feeding, and gave apparently no more return than she would had she been receiving a normal ration. Dinah responded to every additional pound of meal with an increased milk yield of better quality, all milk ingredients, particularly the caseine, increasing largely." The other cow, "Daisy," appears from the fragmentary record, to increase in quantity of milk ingredients as the meal increased." She evidently was an unhealthy cow, and died from overfeeding during the experiment.

Here we get the true answer, which is: Richness may be fed into the milk of some cows within a comparatively short time, while the milk of other cows seems to remain unchanged under the heaviest feeding. We say "seems to remain" because we do not believe that any experiment can be accepted as conclusive on this point that does not extend beyond one period of lactation. We venture to remark incidentally that the results of churning and analyses show that neither of these cows was what we should call a real butter cow. It took from 19 pounds 4 ounces to 25 pounds 3 ounces of Betsey's milk to make a pound of butter, and of Dinah's from 25 pounds 3 ounces to 30 pounds 7 ounces. Good Jerseys will average an ounce of butter to the pound of milk. The other experiment that gives an answer to this question was designed to test "effect on the quantity and quality of milk of the change from barn to pasture." The result is stated thus:

"In general, it would appear that cows under the usual Vermont conditions of dry barn feed, when turned to pasture, may be expected to give more and richer milk, the increase and flow being greatest in new milch cows, and the increase in richness greatest in those farther along in lactation, but both quantity and quality increasing more or less in almost every case."

Neither of these experiments were designed to test the question proposed, hence we regard their answers as of even greater weight because more impartial than if they had been so designed.

We believe that any cow that is not past maturity may be so fed that she will increase the richness of her milk; provided only that she has not already been fed up to her full capacity. We regard the question as exactly parallel with, "Can speed be fed and trained into a horse?" Until the full limit of the horse's powers are reached, judicious feeding and training will increase his speed. So until the full limit of a cow's butter capacity has been reached, judicious feeding will increase her yield; in other words, will increase the richness of her milk. If this were not so there could be no such thing as systematic improvement of the butter capacity of a breed.—*The Jersey Bulletin.*

CONCRETE.

Concrete may be turned to many valuable uses about farms and rural dwellings, and any ordinary workman can manage it. It is made up of the common hydraulic cement, or water-lime, one part; clean and sharp, rather coarse sand, three parts, and broken stone or coarse gravel, five parts. The lime and sand are mixed dry, and evenly as possible; this is necessary, because if mixed wet, it will quickly harden and be spoiled. A mixing-board or table is made, and the cement and sand are spread on it. Water is then added to make a thin mortar. The broken stone or gravel, which should be clean and free from earth, is kept wet, and the required quantity is added to the mortar, the whole being shoveled over and over until each fragment is completely covered with the cement. This is important; the strength and solidity of the concrete depend upon it.

To lay a floor, the bottom is first graded and made level, and should be well rammed to get a solid foundation. As much of the concrete is then mixed as can be spread while a second batch is mixing, and is spread on the floor and beaten down. More of the concrete is then spread and a clean joint is made, so that no cracks will be left in the floor.

The whole floor is thus laid, and made as smooth as possible by a rubber of plank with a handle, by which the surface is smoothed and leveled. After the floor is laid, it is covered with a finishing coat of the cement and sand mortar alone, and this is well rubbed, as before, to get a good surface.

It must be left a few days to harden before it is used. It will be impervious to rats, and if coated with hot gas-tar or asphaltum, it will be perfectly waterproof. The floor should be at least three inches thick, and the finishing coat need be no thicker than is necessary to make the surface smooth. This is the best floor for stables and dairies.

The quantities of materials required may be calculated on this basis: A barrel of the cement and three of sand will make 12 cubic feet of mortar, and the 5 barrels of stone or gravel will make 20 cubic feet. This quantity of concrete will make 120 square feet of floor, three inches thick. To find the quantity required, the length and width of the floor are multiplied together, this giving the number of square feet in it.—*New York Tribune.*

WHEAT AND CORN CROPS.

	Area.	Yield per Acre.	Total Yield. (bushels).
Wheat, 1891.....	40,000,000	15.0	600,000,000
" 1890.....	36,087,000	11.1	399,262,000
Increase.....	3,913,000	3.9	200,738,000
Corn, 1891.....	77,944,000	26.5	2,065,516,000
" 1890.....	71,971,000	20.7	1,489,970,000
Increase.....	5,973,000	5.8	575,546,000

Not a Local Disease

Because Catarrh affects your head, it is not therefore a local disease. If it did not exist in your blood, it could not manifest itself in your nose. The blood now in your brain is before you finish reading this article, back in your heart again, and soon distributed to your liver, stomach, kidneys, and so on. Whatever impurities the blood does not carry away, cause what we call diseases. Therefore, when you have

Catarrh

a snuff or other inhalant can at most give only temporary relief. The only way to effect a cure is to attack the disease in the blood, by taking a constitutional remedy like Hood's Sarsaparilla, which eliminates all impurities and thus permanently cures Catarrh. The success of

Hood's Sarsaparilla

As a remedy for Catarrh is vouched for by many people it has cured. N. B. Be sure to get Hood's.

Our Farm.

IRRIGATING GARDEN CROPS.

BY JOSEPH.

A PIECE of land from which we expect to realize an annual income of three or four hundred dollars is well worth special selection and treatment. Even if it would cost us several hundred dollars per acre to get it into condition which will secure us such an income with some degree of certainty, it would pay us well to make the improvement. The same may be said in regard to first cost of land. A good running stream or a body of water available for tapping above a piece of land may add hundreds of dollars to the value of each acre. Sometimes such water privileges exist and are not utilized or appreciated, and in many other cases they could be made available with little difficulty and at a less cost than the increase of crop, due to the increased or somewhat equalized moisture supply, would repay in a single season.

Progressive agriculture and horticulture will not forever let these mountain streams empty their waters, often so urgently needed upon the rich lands below them during our prolonged hot and dry seasons, in uninterrupted flow into rivers and lakes and the ocean. Soon they will be tapped above and the flow transformed into a stream of gold.

Of all ordinary garden crops, none is more depending for full success on an uninterrupted supply of moisture than celery. It is a crop that pays fairly well, and sometimes quite well under good management, but when the grower has irrigating facilities and may laugh at drouth and heat, he can make the crop pay him very handsome returns for his labor and expenses.

Well, kind reader, do you wish to earn that forty odd thousand dollars we read so much about in the advertisements of a new book on celery, by cultivating celery for market for a number of years? If you do, my advice is, don't take a piece of land for it unless you have a never-failing source of water a little above it. Reclaimed muck is just the land you want for the purpose, for it is more easily handled than any other and makes it possible to "firm" and blanch the celery by earthing up with less labor and expense than required on sandy or clayey soils. At the same time, water is in most cases readily available for irrigating such soils, and it penetrates and diffuses through the muck bed in every direction with the greatest of ease.

The next problem is how to distribute the water evenly over the whole area. We can do this by three methods: (1) By letting the water run into light furrows,

it, must irrigate thoroughly and then not again very soon.

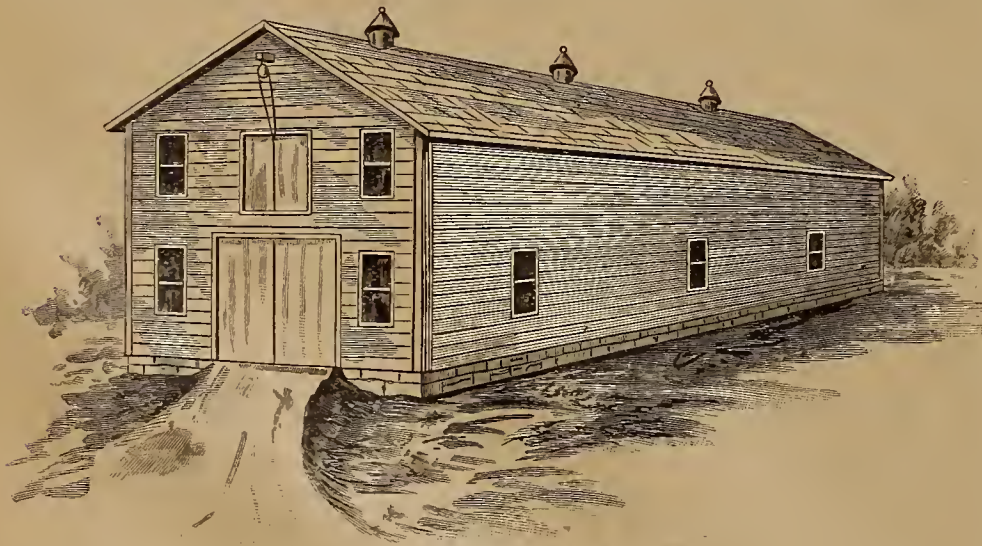
A few years ago I arranged a small piece of ground, planted to celery, for surface irrigation. The piece had some slope, and a brook passing an upper corner was slightly dammed up, the water conducted upon the land and allowed to run down between the rows. In twenty-four hours the soil was completely soaked through and the water then was again turned into its right channel. The results were entirely gratifying and well paid for the slight work involved. In such surface irrigation we must try to put the water on the highest places, as the lower ones will easily take care of themselves. If water is put on the low places, the higher ones may have to go without. Of course, in applying water in this way, there is danger that the surface will bake afterwards, therefore the latter should be thoroughly stirred with wheel-hoe or other tools just as soon as it has again become dry enough for such work.

I think much more favorably of the tile method, and am just getting ready to prepare a small patch in the kitchen garden in this way. The land is a clay loam and the tile lines will have to be laid rather close, say twelve feet apart. They are just laid upon the clay subsoil, out of the plow-point's reach, but otherwise in the same manner as for subsoil drainage. In fact, they end in a regular drain, and thus provide something half way between surface and subsoil drainage, allowing the surplus water, during heavy rains, to pass off very rapidly. The upper end of these tile lines, connecting with a shallow, trough-like ditch, is kept stopped up loosely to prevent rubbish from getting into the tiles when not in actual use for irrigation. Unfortunately, I have no running stream or body of water from which to draw the supply for filling the trough ditch at the upper end. A pump is the only source of supply. On the other hand, I think a line or two of such underground tile would pay in the home garden, if for nothing else save the disposal of washing suds and similar liquid waste materials from the house. One end of the trough ditch is within two rods of the kitchen door, and the various slops will hereafter be utilized in a very good way.

For celery growing on muck on a large scale and for big profits, I think the third method, that of filling ditches between rather wide beds to overflowing, is just what we want. The details of this plan, as in actual use on a twenty-acre tract in Livingston county, N. Y., will be described in my next.

A POTATO AND ONION STORAGE-HOUSE.

In an earlier issue I described and illustrated an onion curing-shed, put up this fall by Mr. Henry Price, of Ohio, who



A POTATO AND ONION STORAGE-HOUSE.

made every eight or ten feet apart, until the ground has received a thorough soaking; (2) by laying lines of tiles, ten or twelve inches deep, connecting with a trough at the upper end and without outlet at the lower end and letting the water rush into the trough; (3) by filling ditches, cut at reasonable distances, between beds to overflowing. All three methods require quite a large amount of water, and for this reason I have never been very much in favor of pumping water out of the bowels of the earth. Watering, to be effective, should be flooding or soaking, and not sprinkling. A good soaking rain does vastly more good than any kind of irrigation we could make use of. We should not irrigate often, but when we do

has to care for about thirty thousand bushels of onions this year. He tells me, however, that he has put in spouts or shoots on both sides, so the onions to be marketed can be taken out and conveyed directly to the wagon in a convenient manner. This makes the eight-foot driveway rather narrow, and it should be ten feet wide.

Mr. Price has also put up a potato and onion storage-house. This is shown in accompanying illustration. The building is thirty-two feet wide and sixty-five feet long, resting on a stone wall. There is a driveway clear through the entire length of building. This first floor is a ground floor. The aim has been to make the sides proof against the ingress of frost. For this

reason the frame is put up of six-inch studding, sheathed solid, then covered with Fay's patent water-proof paper, then patent siding. Inside he put Fay's patent paper on studding, then celled over in the ordinary way. He also covered the roof with patent paper, and shingled over it. Galvanized iron ventilators on top provide for the needed ventilation when doors



COMPOUND GALL.

1. Gall growing on the rose. 2. Section through gall, showing cells. 3, 4, 5, 6. Successive stages through which the wasp passes from the egg to maturity.

and windows have to be closed. Tile ventilators are put through the foundation wall. At each end is a hood with pulley. Of course, the windows—all double—can be raised or lowered, and doors kept open or shut, according to the weather.

Provision is made for a stove inside the house, to make sure against freezing in very cold weather. The tile ventilators can be stopped up with rags when necessary. The double walls, with six-inch dead-air space between, should secure the house pretty well against frost. I have an idea, however, that it would have been safer to make this doubly sure by having two dead-air spaces, even if either one were only two inches wide. Let Mr. Price report in the spring how the building works.

JOSEPH.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Myrobalan Plum.—S. H., Mio, Mich. The Myrobalan plum is only valuable as a stock for the plum, and does best on light soils. The fruit is small and of no value.

Trimming Raspberry Bushes.—F. T., Seymour, —, writes: "I planted some black raspberries last spring. They are now about twelve feet high. Will it not hurt them when I trim them back to about three or four feet?"

REPLY:—It would be a bad plan to cut them back so much. Better wait until spring, and then only cut back a little, according to the way they come through the winter.

Propagating Plums and Peaches.—O. J. H., Walpole, N. H. Plum and peach stones should be piled in the fall in heaps, in a dry place in the field. They should be in alternate layers of two inches of peach or plum stones and two inches of loam or sand, until the heap is twelve inches high, when the whole should be covered with soil. In spring sift the sand out from the stones. If the stones are not cracked, they should be lightly broken with a hammer. They should be sown in drills in the spring, putting the peach pits eight inches and the plum pits four inches apart. The peach may be huddled the following August, but probably the plums would not be large enough to bud until a year later.

Rust on Pear Leaves.—A. C. R., Mica, Wash., writes: "I enclose you a few leaves from my pear-trees. Please inform me as to the disease and its remedy. The trees show signs of the disease when they first leaf out in spring. The leaf at first, as it unfolds, is spotted with red spots, and later in the season becomes black, but the trees make a good growth of wood, nevertheless. Some tell me that it is pear-blight, but there is no dead wood from the disease."

REPLY:—The disease affecting the pear leaves received is known as rust. It is not blight, nor will it develop into it. I do not know about the exact species of this rust, but it is nearly allied, but not quite the same as the wheat rust, and it is probably the *Restelia pirata*. It is found only where red cedars grow, for it passes a part of its life on that tree, and produces on it what is known as cedar-apples. A peculiar thing about it is that the spores from the pear or apple leaf or fruit (for it may attack the fruit), will only grow on the red cedar, and the spores from the red cedar will only grow on pomaceous fruits (apples, pears, quinces, etc.). The remedies are: If practicable, remove the red cedar in your locality. The trees that are ruinously affected should

be destroyed anyway. In localities where the rust occurs, spray all the trees not seriously diseased with the Bordeaux mixture, making first applications as soon as the first leaves are fully formed. There is no danger of infection after the cedar-apples have dried up nor before they push forth their yellow, gelatinous appendages. Spray often enough to keep the leaves well covered with the Bordeaux mixture until the yellow cones dry up on the cedar-apples. Plant only kinds that resist the disease.

Compound Gall.—Mrs. F. M. G., Birmingham, Mich. The specimen received is a gall found occasionally and sometimes in quantity on wild roses, and seldom, if ever, upon our cultivated kinds. It is a compound gall, made by a true wasp; that is, it is a gall in which several eggs batch and grow to maturity. It is single-brooded. The eggs are laid without any poison with them, and the gall takes on its peculiar form due to the irritating influence of the work of the larvæ. The eggs are laid in June, and soon hatch. The insects winter over in both the larva and pupa state, and emerge from their cells early in spring. We know only the females of this wasp; although much time and effort has been employed to discover the other sex, the males have never been found. This would seem to show that virginal reproduction extends over several years. The engraving on this page shows the general characteristics of this gall, although it is not an exact representation of the gall of the species received, but of a closely allied wasp.

Apple-tree Blight.—J. H. A., Illinois. The disease to which you refer is the genuine apple-tree blight. The same disease also destroys pear-trees the same way. It is very discouraging to have to write that although great advances have been made in the treatment of the fungous diseases of plants, yet we really know of no practical remedy for this blight of the apple. Generally, our apples blight by commencing on the new growth, from which it gradually works down the tree; but occasionally I have seen trees affected first in the trunk. Only to-day I found one of my pears, with the foliage green and healthy, that is badly affected in its body by blight. The spores of the blight may enter a tree at any point where the bark is broken, or through the pores (stomata) of the new growth.

Insects on Apricots—Pruning—Sprayer.—G. W. W., East Oakland, Cal., writes: "As fast as our apricots became soft enough, the 'ladybugs' commenced to honeycomb them, so that we had to get them while still hard. What can be done to prevent that another season?—Could you give such brief and explicit directions about pruning as would enable a person who never did it to prune seventy-five trees—pears, apples, peaches, apricots, plums, etc.?—This place has been neglected, and some of the apple-trees have woolly-aphis, and on some of the trees an insect seems to be embedded in the bark of the trunk. There is a very poor fruit crop, and many of the apples are wormy. I should like to get the trees in a good, healthy state, and as this is not my line of business, I shall have to depend upon what I can pick up in FARM AND FIRESIDE or elsewhere, as to spraying, the right time, with what insecticide, and where to get a cheap, efficient sprayer, one that will do whitewashing also. If you can give such hints in your columns as will cover some of these points and enable me to gather perfect fruit and lots of it, when the season is as good as this year, you will greatly oblige an old subscriber."

REPLY:—I think it is not a ladybug that injured your apricots when they commenced to get ripe. Ladybugs are very helpful insects, and if present at all on the fruit, were probably after the larvæ of some insect. It will be necessary for you to send specimens of the injured fruit and insect at work on it for me to speak of it intelligently.—It would require more space and illustrations than the subject warrants to enter into the details of pruning in these columns, and I would suggest that you get "Thomas' Fruit Culturist," and look the subject up in it, where you will find good illustrations to aid you.—It would also be well for you to get "Insects Injurious to Fruits," by Saunders, in which you will find clearly stated the remedies for various insects. The Nixon nozzle makes a good sprayer, and I use one for fighting insects. It is made by the Nixon Nozzle and Machine Co., Dayton, Ohio. You had better send for their circular.

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EXTRACTS
FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM KANSAS.—I have been here in Greenwood county one year, and can say that I like the country very well. It is a very healthy place to live. The wheat crop was immense, and oats and flax were good. Corn was not so good on the upland, on account of the wet weather in the spring and dry weather later on. Corn is selling for 35 cents per bushel; oats, 30; flax, 70. The renter here gets two thirds of the crop. D. H. Severy, Kan.

FROM OKLAHOMA TERRITORY.—We can say without any fear of contradiction that this is the best part of the territory. Fruits and vegetables grow to perfection. The apples, peaches, pears, etc., grown by the Indians are fine. Wheat, corn, oats and cotton grow just as well as further east or south of us. Grapes and strawberries grow promiscuously, and hundreds of acres grow wild. Stock can be raised for one fourth of what it takes in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. The largest melons, beets, potatoes turnips and sweet potatoes grow here with but little cultivation. Corn will yield on average bottom and prairie land 60 bushels per acre. Wheat yielded as high as 35 bushels. This is the country for the good, industrious farmer. It takes work and not wind to make farming successful. S. F. Shawneetown.

FROM IOWA.—Linn county is in a most prosperous condition at the present time, having good crops of everything. Our fruit crop is a bountiful one, with the exception of winter apples in some localities. The crop of small fruits was enormous, especially here in our own county. Of course, such crops make lower prices, and consequently some are discouraged and disgusted with the business. I will venture the assertion that the tables of no state in the Union will be groaning under heavier weights of fruits and jellies the present fall and winter. We also have a great crop of most kinds of vegetables, potatoes being very abundant and selling by car-load lots at 22 cents per bushel. There seems to be no let up on the dairy business in Iowa; Linn county is in the front rank. We have good schools and churches here. The health of this locality is good. We are having beautiful fall weather, and farmers are well along with their fall work. E. H. Springville, Iowa.

FROM ARKANSAS.—Beebe, a little city of 1,800, is situated about thirty miles north-east of Little Rock and twenty-five miles from White river. We have five churches, two good hotels, one stove factory, a fruit evaporator, a creamery, a saw-mill and two gin-mills, five brick stores in construction, four just completed, one bank and no saloons. The principal product is cotton, though 40 to 50 bushels of corn per acre is raised. Irish potatoes yield 60 to 150 bushels to the acre. This state cannot be beat for sweet potatoes and all kinds of vegetables. The average of all crops taken together is \$20.40 per acre. This a fine fruit country. Land is cheap; good, unimproved land is selling at from \$2 to \$10 per acre, and improved, \$5 to \$20 per acre. The poor renter north pays \$5 per acre cash rent, and that would pay for his land here. I have been in several states, and this climate suits me better than any other. I have been troubled with inflammatory rheumatism, and feel perfectly cured. The water here has a great deal of sulphur and iron in it, which makes it a healthful beverage. There is plenty of wild game, such as turkey, squirrel, opossum, coons and some few deer and bear on White river. I can say I have never met a more hospitable people anywhere. Beebe, Ark. J. W. W.

FROM OREGON.—The principal part of Evans Creek valley is about ten miles long, very narrow in some places, but occasionally widening out from two to three or more miles. There are many small valleys that come out into Rogue river valley from the north and from the south, most of them having very good land, some of it being densely timbered with fine, large trees; it will make good ranches after the timber is taken off, a person getting a good profit on the timber. There is a fortune awaiting some one with means to erect a saw-mill in this valley. The timber is large, some trees measuring seven feet in diameter. There are good, level roads over which to haul the lumber to Woodville, whence it can be shipped by rail either to Portland, Oregon, or San Francisco, Cal., where good sugar pine brings \$50 a thousand. We need more saw-mills, flouring-mills, manufactories, etc., in southern Oregon. A drug store at Woodville would pay well, as people in this valley, or a great many of them, are sixteen miles and more from any practicing physician. Woodville is beautifully situated on the S. P. railroad, 305 miles from Portland. It has two hotels, a post-office, a general merchandise store, a railroad depot and express office and a fine, two-story school-building. Fruit does well. One of the finest prune orchards in this portion of the country is located near this village. Fruit growing will be one of the leading occupations of the people. Crops this year yielded well. The Alliance in this section is doing excellent work. There are organizations all over the county. S. C. S. Woodville, Oregon.

FROM TEXAS.—Parker county is situated between the 32° and 33° of latitude and between the 78° and 79° of longitude, naturally making a locality of medium temperature. It is the banner county of Texas, and is the mother of the Farmers' Alliance organization. Farmers plow here the year around. It is without doubt one of the most healthful places in the state. With the waters that flow into the Brazos and Trinity rivers, it has a perfect system of natural drainage. Weatherford, the county-seat, has a population of about 6,000. It is nearly 1,200 feet above the sea-level, 600 feet above Dallas and 700 feet above Waco. It has good, pure water. We have the best free school system in the United States, and our schools are second to none. All the leading Christian denominations have churches here, some costing from \$10,000 to \$20,000. Wheat yields 15 to 30 bushels; oats, 40 to 100; corn, 25 to 50; millet, 2 to 4 tons per acre; sorghum, 3 to 5 tons; cotton, from 1/4 to 1 bale, and this on land that can be bought for \$10 to \$15 per acre. Last fall I bought a small farm of 80 acres—50 in cultivation, 15 acres in timbered pasture, the rest outside in timber—for \$800. The man I bought it of raised and sold \$813.63 worth of corn, cotton and cotton-seed, besides using about \$75 worth of corn and \$5 worth of cotton-seed and the products of a good garden. About two fifths of our county is in timber and three fifths prairie. Taxes are only about 8 1/2 cents per \$100. Weatherford compressors will compress and ship at least 100,000 bales of cotton. We welcome all industrious, energetic, law-abiding citizens to come and help us enjoy the advantages of this great country. Lambert, Texas. R. P. L.

FROM OHIO.—Darke county is situated in the center of the western part of the state. It is gently rolling, with very little hilly land, and has a great deal of nearly level land; much of the latter used to be marsh or wet lands, but now they are well drained. Some of the best cultivated farms on the highland have been drained with profit. The tiles used are from 3 to 12 inches, put in at an average depth of from 24 to 30 inches. The land is a clay loam. Along the small watercourses there are from 5 to 20 rods in width of a black loam; along larger streams, from 40 rods to a mile wide of nice black loam. It yields 40 to 70 bushels of corn, 15 to 30 or 40 bushels of wheat, 30 to 50 bushels of oats, 1 to 2 tons of hay. We had good crops this year, as good a wheat crop as we have had in many years, in yield and quality. The hay crop was very good, and harvested without rain. The oats crop was not quite so good. The corn crop is much larger than last year, and is very well matured. Potatoes are good. Apples are a fair crop, and other fruits were plenty. Union City, Indiana, situated near the state line, is the principal market for western Darke and the eastern part of Randolph county, Ind. Its population is nearly 5,000. It has a number of small manufactories, with good opportunities for other factories. It has three railroads, electric lights, water-works, good schools. It has a great many gravel roads or free pikes running into it, making it convenient for farmers to go to market at any time, wet or dry. The market prices are fair; wheat, 90 cents; corn, 50 and 55 cents; oats, 30 cents per bushel; hay, \$6 and \$7 per ton; potatoes, 25 and 30 cents per bushel; butter, 16 cents per pound; eggs, 16 cents per dozen. Land is worth from \$30 to \$70 per acre. The farms are generally well improved, and have good frame or brick dwelling-houses, and good frame barns, well painted. Wells are good at a depth of from 12 to 30 feet. The health is as good as anywhere in western Ohio. Very little land has been sold here for a few years. Greenville, the county-seat of Darke, is a nice little town of 5,500 inhabitants. O. J. F. R. Union City, Ind.

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Our Fireside.

SING.

Sing! as the birds shall teach thee,
A song of love and trust;
Sing! till the world shall listen,
Till thine own eyes shall glisten
As joy or grief shall reach thee.
As a true singer must;
May the brave music swelling,
From thy good heart upwelling,
Its message still betelling
Long after thou art dust.

Sing! for the world is weary
With burden of its care;
And men are heavy-hearted,
Perplexed, misjudged and thwarted,
And sin has made life dreary,
Temptation everywhere;
Sing! as true singer may,
Driving these clouds away
With promises of day
Whose coming shall be fair.

Sing! as thy heart shall bid thee,
Nor let the music die,
Its tenderest words unspoken;
Give generously love's token;
Heed none that would forbid thee,
As days and years go by.
Think not of what it cost thee,
Gold, friendship, pleasures lost thee,
Of praises seldom tossed thee,
Of blame few would deny.

Sing! and thy heart's best feeling
Shall not in vain be spent.
Some soul, sin-sick, life-weary,
Shall at thy song grow cheery,
As thou in it revealing
New hope for discontent,
And put away the badness
Of sin and strife and sadness
Of misspent days with gladness,
In holy purpose meant.

Sing! and thy song shall sweeter
Grow with the coming years,
And some day men shall heed thee,
Finding how much they need thee,
To make their lives complete,
Whose faith shall still their fears.
Sing! with thy soul's pure fire,
Thy passionate desire
That Godward doth aspire,
And heavenly music hears.

—Charles Edward Pratt.

THE CHIDESTER BROTHERS.

BY THEODORE MARCH.

The FIRST time that I ever heard of the Chidester Brothers, Molly Hayes spoke of them to me. "Have you seen the Chidester Brothers?" she asked, never giving me a chance to answer. "Oh, Jennie, they are too splendid for anything! They are as handsome as they can be."

"Who are they?" I asked. "Oh, they have been in town about a week. They are at Tomlinson's and they drive a beautiful pair of blacks in a light wagon."

"But who are they? I declare, Molly, you never stop talking long enough to say anything."

Molly laughed. She has the sweetest temper, and did stop a moment.

"They are," she said, slowly, "oh, I don't know who they are, except just the Chidester Brothers; nor what they are, except—dentists."

"Dentists?" I exclaimed. "Yes, dentists. They are traveling from place to place in their own carriage, and practicing as they go. They enjoy traveling, and like to study the country and the people, you know. They have two offices at Tomlinson's, but they drive out into the country and call, and they will go to any one who sends for them. It is very convenient, now, isn't it?"

"But I never heard of such a thing; at least not among real dentists. Who told you about them?"

"Told me? Why, they told me." "Molly Hayes! Do you know them?" "Yes, indeed. I was introduced to them at church last Wednesday night, and they have called twice. Aunt Eliza has ordered a set of teeth from them. I wonder they have not been here!"

"They need not trouble themselves," I replied, dryly.

Molly blushed crimson and changed the subject. Soon after she went away.

Well, that was the beginning of it. The whole country went wild on the Chidester Brothers after that, and everyone who came near me had something to say in their praise. The very fence rows seem to whisper of new teeth. I was busy just then, for mother had been quite ill, and when she was able, father and Jim had taken her away for a trip. I was keeping house and ruling over the boys—doubtless with wisdom, and certainly with great wear and tear of mind and body. We lived two miles out of Meadowside, a lovely old country town, and although the girls were very good in coming to see me and sending me notes, books and paterus by their brothers, little and big, I was not "in the swim" of the busy town life and fun as usual. I had to rely on the gossip of callers.

Molly Hayes did not come after the first mention of the Chidester Brothers, but I heard, from her brother George and from the other girls, of her being often with those gentlemen and very much pleased with their attentions. To everyone except George I freely

expressed my opinion of such chance acquaintances.

"I don't like strangers, any way; but when it comes to strangers you don't know—"

"Hello, Jennie! Got you there," cried Jack, the cavalier. "They wouldn't be strangers if you knew them, would they?"

"And who are a sort of twin 'Cheap John' besides," I went on, superior to the interruption. "I can't understand any girl receiving their attentions, or even ranking them among her acquaintances."

"But, Jennie, they are so pleasant and so handsome, and really quite like gentlemen," mildly remonstrated Susie Brown, who was calling.

"Like! But I want the men I know to be gentlemen, and I don't believe a gentleman would think of peddling either teeth or tooth-brushes. One is of no higher grade of business than the other."

"I think you are right," observed Mr. Heming, Susie's escort, and the very quiet assistant of Mr. Brown, our druggist.

Mr. Heming had been a stranger a year before this, but he had come to Meadowside well recommended. Besides, he was so very plain, it would never have paid him to be anything but "eminently respectable."

"Of course I am right!" I cried. "Why, these men may be part of a gang of burglars, instead of gentlemen or men of honest and honorable calling. What if they should be some of the scamps who broke into Mr. Scott's house, over in Lebanon, and carried off his instruments and his new dentist's chair? I know they shouldn't come here as they go to so many houses, particularly with father and Jim away. I should never have a moment's peace."

"I should think you would feel timid as it is," remarked Susie, with a glance around the room. We were eating fruit in the dining-room, where the sideboard and buffet were crowded with silver and pretty things.

"Where do you keep all these?" asked Mr. Heming. "You surely do not leave them exposed in this way during the night!"

"Oh, no, indeed. They are all carried up into mother's room. Mine is next to it. It is a terrible nuisance, and if they were mine I should just leave them here. The house is safe enough."

"You have burglar alarms, I suppose?"

"No, we have not. Father talks of getting them, but there it stands—at talking."

"Then you do not sleep alone?"

"Indeed, I do. The boys are in the nursery and the servants in the attic. Dear me, I don't think I could stand it without a few hours to myself! Listen! That's the way it is from morning till night. Just excuse me while I settle them."

I ran upstairs, and when I came down, Susie and Mr. Heming were ready to take leave, and waiting under the hall lamp.

"I believe this will be a match," I thought, as I kissed Susie. "And really," carrying on the same thought as I went slowly upstairs again, "I don't see why it would not be a good thing. And he is not half such a fright as I thought him. There was quite a glow in his eyes to-night. Usually he is as dull as dish-water. Not much like those everlasting Chidester Brothers. Susie is certainly a quiet, pretty little thing."

As I set my candle on my dressing-table I saw reflected in the glass the scornful curl of my lip at the mere thought of those Cheap Johns, as I had named them. No respectable dentist would do such a thing as this business of theirs. Where did they get the means to live as they did while they carried it on? Puzzling over it, I fell asleep and dreamed of—Mr. Heming and Susie mixing and rolling pills together upon mother's best silver salver.

Two weeks later a party of the young people came out to spend the last evening of my loneliness with me. Father and mother were coming home the next day, and I was heartily glad of it. Jim was in Boston finishing his trip with some college friends.

Among my guests of the evening were Susie Brown and Mr. Heming, Molly Hayes and one of the Chidester Brothers. I could hardly believe my eyes. But Molly was as unconcerned as possible, introduced him with that little air of hers which always says to me as plainly as words, "See what I have caught!" and rattled away all the evening as usual. As for him, he behaved very well, and although I did not exchange words with him after the introduction, I must say I enjoyed looking at him on the sly. Nothing I had heard of his looks had done him justice.

They all staid late. Mr. Heming and Susie were the first to leave, and Molly and the Chidester the last. After they had crossed the door-step I saw him pause and glance back at the hall and the stairway. It was a peculiar and searching glance, and gave me a chilly sensation of fear and dread. My suspicions were all renewed and strengthened; for I will confess the man's noble face and bearing had influenced me, even in the one interview.

Under the effect of that glance, however, I had all the silver gathered up most carefully and packed in several baskets, and I concluded to sleep in mother's room instead of my own. Moreover, I opened the doors between the nursery and our rooms. I was not at all mindful of the delights of utter loneliness. I went back and forth several times to the tumbled beds in the nursery, envying the rosy sleepers, and it was late indeed before I joined them.

Almost instantly, it seemed to me, I was broad awake again, and looking straight be-

fore me at a terrible sight. There was a light in the room—a pale, uncertain, flickering light, which streamed upward from the floor at the foot of the bed, and cast strange shadows on the ceiling. The door into my room was shut, but the one into the hall was wide open, as well as the window beyond it, opening upon the porch roof. I felt the night wind blowing over me; I think that woke me, and not any noise or movement, for I lay perfectly still and calm until my scattered senses returned and I knew what to fear.

"Burglars!" beat my frightened heart. "The Chidester Brothers," came choking into my tightened throat. I had too much sense to move or scream. I lay still as death, only drawing long, even breaths, as if sound in sleep, and using my eyes for all they were worth. The shadows on the ceiling showed that things were being taken up and down—our silver—by gigantic hands, but all other outlines were so confused that I could distinguish nothing.

How long the time, how deadly cold the chills of terror that swept over me, no one will ever know who has not passed through it all. Suddenly I heard a sound—a sound which filled me with sickening dread. The boys were awake—were moving—were calling me.

The burglar sprang to his feet, light and noiselessly as a breath, and stood poised and ready, his back toward me. He turned, his lamp flared up. In the glass opposite, above the mask which had doubtless slipped as he sprang up, I saw the face of the "eminently respectable" Mr. Heming!

Involuntarily I uttered a sharp cry. Then I closed my eyes and felt myself sinking away into helpless, hopeless terror. But the door of my room flew open with a bang. I heard Jack shout and Nutty scream, a rustle, a thud, a pistol shot, confused voices, trampling of feet, and tremendous pounding and kicking on the porch.

Just let any one try "this sort of thing," and see how quickly events follow each other, and how many different sounds they can hear at one time.

I sprang out of bed, and the chaos began to resolve itself into some kind of order. Jack and Nutty were both telling me that there was a carriage at the door; the burglar had gone through the window and evidently into the hands of his enemies, for above the confusion downstairs I could hear Jim—our brother Jim—roaring for the hall door to be opened. Some one was pounding on it lustily. I seized Nutty and Jack as soon as I had hurried into my wrapper, and trembling in every limb, we rushed down the long hall and stairs.

The hall lamp was burning as usual. I hastily unbolted, unbarred and unlocked the great front door, opened it with a jerk, and threw myself into the arms of—the Chidester Brothers.

"I thought it was Jim," I cried, starting away.

"Jennie! Thank God!" cried Jim, snatching me to him, as he rushed in. "Are you all safe? No one hurt at all?"

"No one. And nothing taken."

"Just in time!" exclaimed the Chidesters.

"Just in time!" echoed Jim. "Boys, I can never half thank you."

There were others trooping in and standing around me with startled and admiring faces. A dark and compact group wore uniforms and carried themselves with the easy manner of men to whom nothing was new or shocking. In their midst, hatless and pale, and oh, how ugly, mean and common, I saw Mr. Heming.

I know, now, there were not more than five or six men altogether, but that night they seemed to fill the hall.

"Jennie, you are shaking with a chill," cried Jim. "You must go to bed at once. I'll take you up"—for I tightened my hold on him—"and call the servants for you. I expect they are too frightened to come out of their rooms. Just make yourselves comfortable, gentlemen; I'll be with you in five minutes."

He marched me to my room and called nurse.

"Oh, Jim, one moment, please. Where did you come from? And who are the Chidesters?"

"First-rate fellows; my class, you know. They telegraphed me. But I can't stop, really. I'll be up again as soon as I can get away."

Then I covered my head among the pillows and had a good, hard and frightened cry, for I was frightened, now that it was all over. Nurse did her best for me by sending the boys to bed and keeping the doors closed. By the time Jim tapped for admittance I was quiet and ready to hear his story.

"Well, Jennie, we've made a big haul. That rascal is the master-spirit of the gang which has been at work around here for a year or two. He's an old hand at it, and his engagement with Mr. Brown was one of his clever dodges. He is a druggist, as he is half a dozen other things, but his letters were forged. The Chidesters saw him once in Boston when he was on trial, and they knew him at once when they saw him here. They are wide awake, both of them. About a week ago they heard something—I haven't got at the bottom of it yet, but two men who came to Tomlinson's for the night had something to do with it—which put them on the track of to-night, and they wrote to me, but they had to make it a cautious letter, and asked me to hold myself in readiness for a telegram, but not to come without one. I was at their cousins'. They telegraphed last night and met me at the train

at the next station. Syd says he was here last evening, for he was half afraid I might not get home, and he thought he had better look around a bit in case anything should come off to frighten you. By the way, how is it you never met before?"

"But why did he not tell me, or some one?" I asked, passing the question.

"Wanted to catch the scamp, of course. And there was no danger, really. They did everything in first-class style."

"Worthy the Chidester Brothers," I said, with a little sneer.

"Brothers? Why, they are cousins—double first, to be sure, and enough alike to be brothers. Rich as Jews, both of them, too."

"Then why are they dentists," I asked.

"Dentists?"

Jim's tones brought me upright in bed.

"Yes, dentists. And traveling dentists at that."

I never heard any one laugh as Jim did. I waited and waited for him to get through and tell me the joke, until I was fairly cross. At last he wiped his eyes, and with only an occasional chuckle, out it came.

They had laid a wager that they could leave Boston in their own carriage and drive for six months east, west, north and south, just as they chose, taking no money with them and sending for none, but living honestly by their wits. Not a soul in Boston believes they are keeping to the terms of the wager. They had not heard of them for a month when their letter came to me. What a pair they are! The idea of Syd and Cyril! They have had larks! Wait until I see them to-morrow! But you had better get some sleep. I am glad another missed this. Good-night."

Of course, I did not sleep until daylight. And, of course, I thought of the Chidesters. We did not see them the next day. They went off in answer to a telegram, leaving a note for Jim. The other Chidester Brothers, the real ones, their respective and respectable fathers, had found them out and issued an edict of recall. They entreated Jim to keep their secret "until the excitement passed off," and to make their apologies to me. "And pray, tell her she was quite right. I thoroughly respect her for her refusal to countenance the Chidester Brothers"—so the note ended.

"That was Cyril," said Jim. "He is rather the finest nature of the two. He would never have thought of such a trick. But Syd can start them. I would like to see Lucy's face when this came out at home. It is Lucy Thorne I mean. She is their cousin."

Lucy Thorne is now Mrs. Jim. And when the Chidesters came back, as they had to, to the trial of my burglar—Well, I might as well tell it in a word—I belong to one of them. Cyril Chidester found respect a very good foundation for a warmer feeling, so he asked me to overlook his folly and sink the remembrance of it in his fame as "a rising lawyer." I overlooked it, and I am "rising" with him.—*Waverly.*

A WOMAN'S QUEER OCCUPATION.

"Wearing shoes is my business," said a woman the other day. It began in this way: A schoolmate of mine had the good luck to marry a wealthy man. She had always suffered from tender feet, and at school I used to break in her new shoes for her by wearing them a few days. Stretching on a last won't serve the same end, because a last cracks, without softening the leather; there's nothing like the tread of the foot to do that.

"Well, when my friend married, she insisted on my accepting from her a trifle for breaking in her shoes. I named fifty cents a pair. There were other women to whom she mentioned her idea, and about half a dozen who wore the same number as I did, gave me their custom. Gradually my queer little business increased, so by the time my daughters grew up I never had to buy shoes for them or myself, and I often employ girls outside when my customers' sizes do not fit any of us.

"I keep the buttons on the shoes in addition to stretching them when new. I charge ten cents for putting the buttons on, no matter how many or how few there may be to replace. I also brush and put shoe-polish on them. The charge for this is twenty-five cents, and the shoes are sent to me and called for. For years, I think, I stood alone in the business, but now the visiting maid includes the care of shoes in her duties, so that, but for having my own patronesses, she would cut the ground from under my always new-shod feet.—*Pittsburgh Dispatch.*

THERE is a project on foot to pipe water from Lake Erie to Cincinnati, starting at Sandusky, and supplying the cities in Erie, Marion, Delaware, Franklin and other counties on the way. Men of prominence are said to have taken up the enterprise.

FOR CATARRH

boils,
pimples, eczema, and
loss of appetite,
take that sure
specific,

Ayer's Sarsaparilla
Cures others, will cure you

"BISH" ON BIRDS.

"Bish" says that "birds having long legs have to have a long neck."

"How's that, Bish?"

"Why, you see, if they didn't have a long neck they couldn't drink without sitting down."

"Well, Bish, some birds have long necks and short legs. How is that?"

"You'll find these things are all calculated out. These birds having long necks have use for them. You are thinking about the swan. Well, he likes a bit now and then from the bottom of the water, and his long neck is to enable him to satisfy his taste; besides, long-necked birds feed on food of a poor quality, so that to get any enjoyment out of eating they have to have a long neck to enable them to taste it long enough to make it enjoyable."

"How about snipes?"

"Snipes! Well, some of them haven't a very long neck, to be sure, but they have what amounts to the same thing—a long bill—and they are rigged so that they can tip up to make up for the rest. Now," said Bish, full of the long-neck idea, "the ostrich has the longest legs of any bird I know. Look at his neck! It easily reaches to the ground. Doesn't this prove my position? And his legs are strong enough to hold up an elephant. Speaking of the elephant," continued Bish, "he isn't a long-necked bird—I mean animal. He hasn't any neck at all, and he is so heavy that he can't sit down every time he wants a drink or a mouthful of hay. See how these things are calculated out for him. Could anything be handier than his trunk?"

"How about snakes, Bish?"

"All neck. They can reach anywhere for food or drink. Returning to birds," said Bish, "did it ever occur to you that birds that roost can't fall over backward?"

"No, indeed. How do you explain that?"

"Well, you see, their claws reach around the perch, so that when they begin to lean over backward their claws tighten like a pair of pipe-tongs. I tell you," said Bish, "these things are all calculated out."

USES FOR GLYCERINE.

Few people realize the importance of the uses of pure commercial glycerine, and how it can be used and made available for purposes where no substitute is found that will take its place. As a dressing for ladies' shoes nothing equals it, making the leather soft and pliable without soiling the garments in contact. As a face lotion, oatmeal, made in paste, with glycerine, two parts, water, one part, and applied to the face at night, with a mask worn over, will give in a short time, if faithfully pursued, a youthful appearance to the skin. As a dressing in the bath, two quarts of water with two ounces of glycerine, scented with rose, which will impart a final freshness and delicacy to the skin. In severe paroxysms in coughing, either in coughs, colds or consumptives, one or two tablespoonfuls of pure glycerine in pure whisky or hot, rich cream will afford almost immediate relief, and to the consumptive a panacea is found by daily use of glycerine internally, with a proportion of one part of powdered willow charcoal and two parts of pure glycerine. For diseased and inflamed gums, two parts of golden seal, one part of powdered burnt alum and two parts of glycerine, made in a paste and rubbed on the gums and around the teeth at night, strengthens and restores the gums to health, provided no tartar is present to cause the disease, which must be removed first before applying.—*Scientific American.*

PREFERENCE OF BIRDS FOR DRAB NESTS.

Dr. C. C. Abbott says that in experimenting on the intelligence of birds, he placed a number of pieces of woolen yarn, red, yellow, green, purple and gray in color, near a tree in which a couple of Baltimore orioles were building their nest. The pieces were all exactly alike except in color. There was an equal number of threads of each color, the red and yellow being purposely placed on top. The birds chose only the duller colors, taking all of the gray and a few threads of the purple when the nest was nearly done.

Not a single thread of the red or bright yellow was touched, the birds seeming to instinctively know that such loud colors would make their domicile too conspicuous. Again he experimented by girdling the branches upon which nests were located, causing the leaves to shrivel and blow away. Although they had laid their eggs, the birds invariably left their nests. If the nests contained young when the leaves dried up, notwithstanding the exposure, they would feed the little ones until they were able to take care of themselves.

HOW TO CARRY A GUN.

The *Forest and Stream* recently published a complete set of rules for carrying a gun, and as the season of the year has come when the "unloaded" gun is killing more people than an epidemic, it is to be hoped that these rules will be well considered and applied, especially by boys:

1. Empty or loaded, never point a gun toward yourself or any other person.
2. When a-field, carry your gun at the half-cock. If in cover, let your hand shield the hammers from whipping twigs.
3. When riding from one shooting-ground to another, or whenever you have your gun in

any conveyance, remove the cartridges, if a breech-loader, it being so easy to replace them. If a muzzle-loader, remove the caps, brush off the nipples, and place a wad on nipple, letting down the hammers on wads—simply removing caps sometimes leaves a little fulminate on the nipple, and a blow on the hammer when down discharges it.

4. Never draw a gun toward you by the barrel.

5. More care is necessary in the use of a gun in a boat than elsewhere; the limited space, confined action, and uncertain motion making it dangerous at the best. If possible, no more than two persons should occupy a boat. Hammerless guns are a constant danger to persons boating.

6. Always clean your gun thoroughly as soon as you return from a day's sport, no matter how tired you feel; the consequence of its always being ready for service is ample return for the few minutes' irksome labor.

ARE FARMERS SHIFTLESS?

President D. S. Jordan has written a long article on the causes of farm depression, in which he places the difficulty mainly with farmers themselves. He complains that they do not work as hard as their forefathers did, which is probably true. But when he instances the crowd of idlers standing around a country railway station as fair specimens of the farmers in the vicinity, he makes almost a libelous charge. Most railroads do not go through the best farming lands, and perhaps farmers adjacent have been more easily discouraged than others. If he will investigate farther away from stations, he will find that farmers work hard and more hours than will the average of city workers. Farm work now requires more thought and skill than it once did, and it follows the old rule in all labor, that those who work with brain as well as with hand cannot work as many hours with both as men can who work with either brain or muscle exclusively. They accomplish more, but work fewer hours. While they are at work, however, the combined strain on mind and body is more exhaustive. This, however, does not tend to shorten life. No class of people, as a rule, have greater expectation of long life than farmers, and it is mainly because this occupation has always given full employment to powers of both mind and body.

WARMTH AND VENTILATION.

Suppose a medium-sized sitting-room with four people and two gas-jets; the air must be changed every fifty minutes to keep it pure. As air is heated it expands and becomes lighter per cubic foot. If all the air is heated equally, it remains at rest after expansion; but if hot air is in the presence of cold air, the latter, by reason of its greater heaviness, forces its way down and drives the hot air up. The moving force of air currents is the greater weight of the colder air. This, then, is the force by which we are to drive out foul air and put pure air in its place. Pure external air will always drive out foul air if you give it a chance. In a room the air arranges itself according to its temperature; the hottest lies along the ceiling, the coolest along the floor. The hottest is the newest and purest. The coolest is the oldest and therefore the foulest. The air is gradually cooling from contact with the walls and windows. When hot air enters a room it rises at once to the ceiling and spreads across it. If there is an escape there, an open window or ventilator, it goes out, leaving the cooler foul air almost undisturbed. From this we see that a window slightly open at the top may cool a room, but not purify it.

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

Clean piano-keys with a soft rag dipped in alcohol.

To clean a black silk dress, use a sponge dipped in strong black tea, cold.

Take egg stains from silver by rubbing with a wet rag which has been dipped in common table salt.

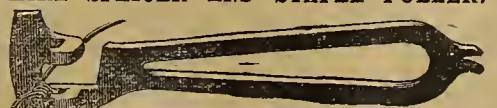
To clean a tea-kettle, take it away from the fire and wash off with a rag dipped in kerosene, followed by a rubbing with a dry flannel cloth.

To clean ceilings that have been blackened by smoke from a lamp, wash off with rags that have been dipped in soda-water.

To mend cracks in stoves and stove-pipes, make a paste of ashes and salt, with water, and apply. A harder and more durable cement is made of iron filings, sal ammoniac and water.

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The Farmer and the Government.

In view of the great interest on the subject of what the Government should do for the farmer, THE CENTURY MAGAZINE will print, during the coming year, a number of very important articles on such topics as "The Farmer's Discontent," "Coöperation," "What the Government is Doing for the Farmer," etc. The workings of the Department of Agriculture, and its practical value to the farmer, will be explained by an official of the Department.

Begin with November.

THE CENTURY MAGAZINE IN 1892

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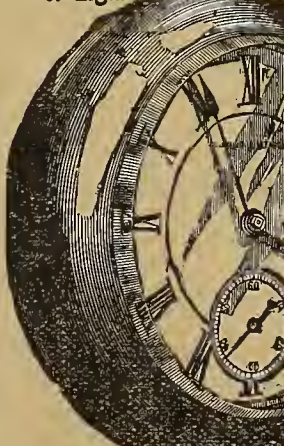
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Our Household.

THE OLD, OLD STORY.

If I had told her in the spring
The old, old story briefly,
When the robin and sparrow began to sing,
And the plowing was over chiefly.

But haste makes waste, and the story sweet,
I reasoned, will keep through the sowing;
Till I drop the corn and plant the wheat,
And give them a chance for growing.

Had I even told the tale of June,
When the wind through the grass was blowing,
Instead of thinking it rather too soon
And waiting till after the mowing.

Or had I hinted out under the stars
That I knew a story worth hearing,
Lingering to put up the pasture bars,
Nor waited to do the shearing.

Now the barn is full, and so is the bin,
But I've grown wise without glory,
Since love is the crop not gathered in,
For my neighbor told her the story.

—Boston Globe.

HOME TOPICS.

BROWNED FLOUR.—Gravies are much better when thickened with browned flour, and it is also nice for thickening soups, giving a delicious flavor. Put a pint or so of flour in a frying-pan, set it on the stove and stir it until it is browned evenly, then let it cool, and cover it tightly in a tin box or glass jar and it will be ready for use when required.

FRAGMENTS.—The bones and small pieces left from the dinner roast or steak, if they are cut up and put over the fire in the morning in a quart or more of cold water, according to the quantity of meat, a teaspoonful of salt added, then left to simmer slowly until an hour before dinner-time, will furnish stock for the dinner's soup. Any kind of vegetables left from the previous dinner may be added, except squash. A little onion is always needed. Fifteen minutes before dinner-time pour the soup into a colander over a dish, and with a spoon rub through all that will go through. Return the soup to the kettle, thicken it with a little browned flour, if it is not thick enough, add a few sprigs of parsley cut fine, and as soon as it boils up it is ready to serve.

SQUASH PIES.—If you have squash left from dinner, let it make a dessert for next day's dinner in the form of squash pie. Sift the cold squash, and to a cupful of squash add a pint of milk, one egg, a third of a cupful of sugar, and season with cinnamon or allspice and ginger to taste. A tablespoonful or two of sweet cream will improve it. Heat the milk and squash together, add the sugar and spices, then after you take it from the fire add the egg, having it well beaten. Line a deep pie-plate with good pie-crust, pour in the prepared squash and bake in a hot oven.

CHRISTMAS KEEPING.—There is no doubt that the practice of giving Christmas presents has become almost a mania with many people, and instead of making it a festival, celebrating the anniversary of the priceless gift of a Savior to the world, brains are racked and purses taxed to make gifts to all our friends and acquaintances. Not because of the love we bear them, but because they gave us something last year, or we expect they will do so this year.

The exchange of little gifts between dear friends is a pleasant custom, but in the home, care must be taken that the chil-



BLOTTER.

dren do not think more of what they will possibly get than of what they may give. Early set the example of giving to those whose lives are not as bright as our own.

Make Christmas a festival at home. Put the house in holiday trim, with evergreens, bright berries, autumn leaves, etc., and be sure that you let the little ones all have a hand in these decorations. If you have a tree, let the thought of making it

beautiful overshadow the one of what presents it may bear for each. Let the thought of adding to some one's happiness on this day be early instilled, if it is only by a letter to a dear absent one, or a cheerful call on some one shut in from outdoor life, who will be cheered by the sight of happy faces.

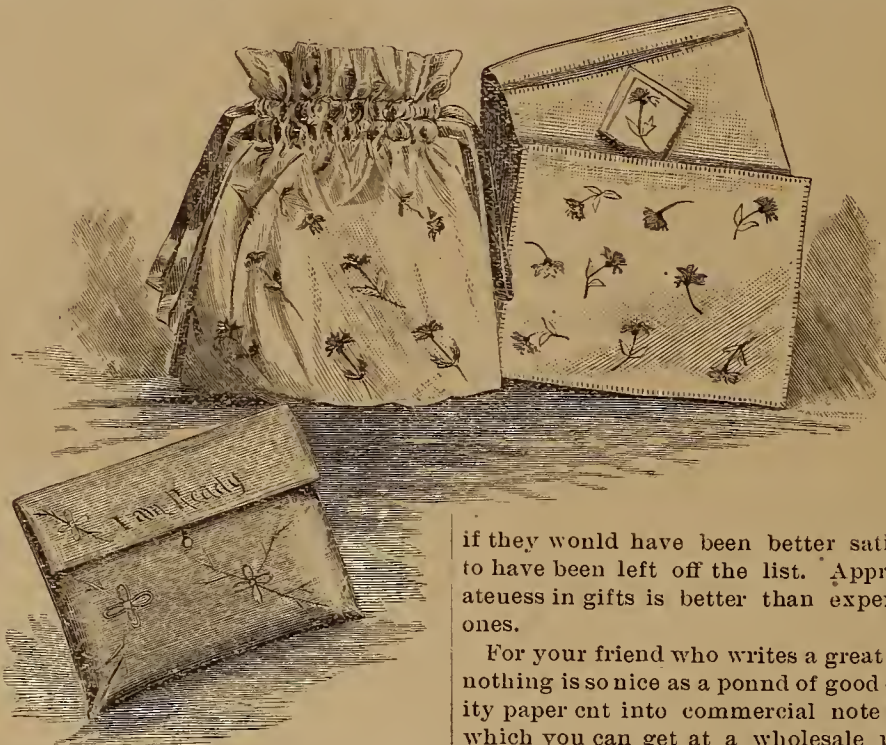
Make Christmas a holiday in earnest. Lay aside for one day the work and care. Sing Christmas songs, tell stories and play games. Make it different from other days, and above all else keep the sweet story of Bethlehem in your minds. Let the children remember the successive Christmases, not by the presents they receive, but by things they did to make somebody else happy. Then they will say, "That was the year we carried a dinner to Aunt Jones," or "the year we took the little Brown children for a sleigh-ride," or "the year papa and mamma went coasting with us, and we asked Ned Simonds to go with us and ride on our sled."

Let Christmas be such a holiday in your homes that in after years, no matter where they may be, its return will bring to your children the memory of a home in which there was "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

MAIDA McL.

CHRISTMAS AND CHRISTMAS GIVING.

"Christmas, the Winter Flower," as Prof. Swing calls it in his last Christmas sermon, will soon begin to bloom. Already the seeds have been planted that will on the appointed day bring forth the sweetest flowers. "Christmas is a language more simple than that of all creeds, and of all moral philosophy. While the



creed is saying 'God is love' and 'man must love his neighbor,' while moral philosophy is telling man his duty toward man, the Christmas bells suddenly ring and the curtain rises upon a world where millions of hearts are carrying each some gift to other hearts, and for the day the earth is full of that love which in philosophy is only a dream. On this day the theory of friendship turns into action."

"The day should rest as lightly upon the poor man's purse as a flower rests upon the bosom of a child. It must be as cheap as sunshine to be really and truly beautiful. Our age does not want the cost of Christmas to increase, but it does want its good will to men to deepen with each passing year."

"In the South, before the war, Christmas was one day of all days, or rather a pastoral saturnalia that set dull care at defiance. From Christmas day to Twelfth night—popularly known as 'Old Christmas'—the only work done was that of charity or necessity. December was taken up with getting ready for the holidays. Axes rang merrily at every wood-side; wagons piled high with oak and hickory logs cut deep ruts in the soft plantation roads, and at last made them quagmires. Sometimes the woodpile covered half an acre. Children, white and black, took perilous rides on the long, pliant saplings projecting from each end.

"When it came to be cut into fire lengths, there was fun indeed. The choppers raced one with another. On the big hickory back logs they showed dark, perspiring silhouettes in half rims of gleaming steel. So rapid were their motions

that the eye quite lost the outline of ax and arm. That, of course, only through the race; but all day the big logs melted into firewood that was stacked and piled at the back and front doors. Woodsheds are unknown there, but the saddle-house was half filled with clean, new, sweet-smelling chips to kindle fires with if there came rain or snow. Picking them up was the children's part.

"When the saddle-house bank got higher than their small heads, they began to pile them in the kitchen, where black mammy was baking Christmas cake. Each basketful was worth a lump of sugar, not the tasteless white sugar of this era, but a generous bit as big as your fist from the heart of the hoghead of live, coarse-grained, brown sweetness that was not a month away from its native Louisiana plantation. Of course, there was white sugar for frosting, and so on."

These merry preparations are very enjoyable, both to young and old, and in the anticipation process only heighten the glory of the day.

Many who take an interest in what they provide for their friends begin in the summer days away at the seaside, and other places of rest, to pick up ideas and weave into the idle hours some pretty gift for the loved ones at Christmas. It is only those who plan ahead who have anything to give. Those who leave everything till the week before Christmas generally make their friends feel as

if they would have been better satisfied to have been left off the list. Appropriateness in gifts is better than expensive ones.

For your friend who writes a great deal, nothing is so nice as a pound of good quality paper cut into commercial note size, which you can get at a wholesale paper house for fifteen and twenty cents a pound. Let good-sized, white envelopes accompany this—a blotter like our illustration, the top being made of stiff wadding of cream color, such as is used to face up the bottoms of men's pants; on this paint in sepia and gold the lettering. The little pocket for stamps is sewed on, then the whole thing is attached to blotting-paper, the same size, by an appropriate bow of ribbon. The edges are made uneven to look as if they had been burnt.

For a friend who travels, make one of the "Ready cases." Take of heavy gray linen a piece seven and a half inches broad by twelve and a half inches long, turn the edge and baste it down; then cut a piece of white oil-cloth this size, and hem down to this; do not turn in the edges of the oil-cloth.

If you wish the lettering and flowers on it, do it in wash silk or Bargaren thread before you put in the lining.

When the lining is in, turn it up just so as to bring a flap over to cover it, and sew up over and over on the right side with thread the color of the linen. A button and loop for closing will finish this. Inside put a cake of soap and a nice wash-rag, either knit or made of Turkish toweling.

Another nice gift is a linen handkerchief-case. It takes a piece eight inches long by eighteen wide, of shirt-bosom linen. Hem a narrow hem by hand all around it; then fold it in thirds and fasten one end to form a pocket to put the handkerchiefs in, the other third for a flap.

A tiny sachet of the same material is fastened inside. The decorations can be

tiny flowers embroidered in Kensington stitch. All around the edge it is button-hole-stitched in the color of the flowers, the stitches being not close together.

The bag for an afternoon visit with a friend is also made of linen. A piece



BROAD EDGING CROCHETED WITH WHITE FANCY BRAID FOR TRIMMING.

nine inches wide by thirty-six inches long. The ends are both turned down first three inches and two shirrs put in for the ribbons; then it is sewed up in a seam to the hems, the ends are laid together and the middle pushed up, thus making a bag with two sides.

A good way to find suitable presents is to put down on your list the thing you hear them say they would like to have.

I have found this a great convenience: "Wherever we are, at the north pole or at the equator, in poverty or in wealth, in a palace or a prison, it is possible that Christmas shall be a day of joy to us, and possible that we may make it a day of joy to others; that we may show, in our own feeble part of the showing, that we ourselves were included in the meaning of the song the herald angels sang, and that we have accepted our share of the blessed burden of carrying the message of good will to all the earth."

LOUISE LONG CHRISTIE.

DRESS NOTES.

Dainty narrow edgings as an outline above the hems will still be worn. The narrowest jet edgings are simply two rows of jet beads.

A bride's going-away dress is of dahlia-faced cloth, trimmed with yards upon yards of elegant crocheted passementerie. The skirt is bell-shaped, slightly touching the floor, the bias back seam being concealed by the fan plaits. The front and sides appear to be one piece, and are smoothly drawn back. The bottom of the skirt is trimmed with three rows of crocheted trimming.

Jet Medici collars are still worn, and can be purchased ready-made, of Kurshsedts Manufacturing Co., New York City. They are not quite as becoming to a short, fat neck as others.

Passementerie composed of nail-heads and small steel beads form an effective trimming for a gray gown.

Coq-feather trimming is very stylish. It varies in price from one dollar and a half to two dollars per yard. Soft, fluffy trimming of silk to imitate feathers are also worn.

A handsome evening hat is described as having a brim of fancy black straw, with an openwork crown made of jet nail-heads strung on wire. It is trimmed with yellow velvet and black wings of velvet.

The new "Paul Jones," or triangular-shaped hat, is very picturesque when worn by a youthful person; but is a caricature when attempted by advanced ladies.

Turbans and walking-hats still retain favor for utility, and are simply trimmed. A veil should always be worn with these to modify their severity.

TRIMMINGS.—Feather trimmings of all kinds are to be worn through the entire season. Peacock-feather trimming comes at \$1.25 per yard. Coq-feather from 69 cents to \$2.25, according to widths. Narrow feather trimming in all colors, from cream white, canary, pale pink, blue, 87 cents. And an imitation of ostrich feathers in silk for 75 cents. They will be used as lavishly as the purse can afford.—*Delin-*

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A PROPHETIC MIRROR.

Adown the darkened hall at twelve she crept,
The while all others in the household slept.
She'd heard how that when Night her pall had spread
On Halloween, the face of him she'd wed
Would in the mirror's silver depths appear,
And she approached it now, not knowing
fear—
She wished to have divulged which one of ten
She was to make the happiest of men.

She stands before the mirror now—she turns—
The candle in her soft, white hand low burns;
And now a backward glance she furtive throws
To learn if life is poetry or prose.
A shriek rings out upon the midnight air.
Poor maid! alas! no single face is there.

This dreadful prophesy of unkind fate
Took place far back in eighteen sixty-eight;
And strange enough, I say it with regret,
It is fulfilled—the maid's unmarried yet.

—Carlisle Smith.

WAVED BRAID TRIMMING.

The scallops of the wide cotton braid are to be laid over each other, as seen, and in the straight edge thus made are crocheted alternately one double stitch and one chain.

Second row—Repeat constantly 1 double in every second double; 3 chain and 4 double around the single double.

Third and fourth rows—Like the first row, the single double caught into the first of the four double.

Fifth row—Alternately one single in the first of the four double and 3 chain.

Sixth row—Alternate one double and one chain.

The lower curved edge, full of some-what, requires in the

First row—Alternate one treble in the braid curve turned over, and 13 treble separated by one chain in the next curve not turned over.

Second row—Round each single chain 1 treble, and between these two chain.

Third row—Round each of the two chain 2 treble, and between these groups of doubles 2 picot of 4 chain and 1 single crochet back into the last double.

NEW FASHIONS VERSUS OLD.

No. 2.

It must be confessed that our grandmothers had sufficiently good taste about their ball dresses. Look at the ball dress for 1807. Could anything be more beautiful? It is thus described:

"It is of plain crape, made of dancing length, plain back and sleeve, with quartered front trimmed around the bottom on the waist and sleeves with a white velvet ribbon thickly spangled with gold. A white satin sash, tied in long bows and ends on the right side, terminated with splendid gold tassels. High gathered tucker of Brussels lace, hair in dishevelled curls, confined with a white velvet band similar with the trimming of the dress, bow of the same blended with the hair and placed over the left eye. India shawl, a deep amber color, negligently drawn through each arm so as to form a flowing drapery on the right

Surprise fan of amber crape, with devices in purple and gold."

Many of the expressions strike us as amusing, such as "dishevelled curls."

"The morning walking dress for 1807 was a frock dress of plain cambric or India muslin, with short bishop's sleeve, round bosom and drawn back. A plain drawn tucker of Paris net, the frock trimmed down the sides with the same or gathered muslin. A French pelerine of fluted velvet or plaited lawn, with high ruff [our grandmothers, it will be seen, wore lawn in December, while our modern belles wear furs in June.—ED.] the tippet, crossing the bosom in front, is tied in a bow at the bottom of the waist behind. A poke bonnet of basket willow or striped velvet with full bows and long ends of shaded orange ribbon on one side. York tan gloves above the elbow. Turkish slippers of red morocco."

This is the description of the lady in evening dress, of March, 1824: "Her dress is yellow China crape; the corsage is cut bias, made rather high and plain, simply ornamented around the bust with a wheel-trimming of the same color in satin and gauze, composed of ornamental rings placed at equal distances on a circular wadded stem or 'rouleau.' The corsage is rather long, and set in a band with satin corded edges, and fastened behind with a rosette to correspond. Tucker of fine blond drawn at top with a silken thread. Short, full sleeve, with perpendicular rows of same trimming, only much larger, and with the wadded satin hem at the bottom, gives weight and grace to the folds of the drapery. The hair is arranged in one row of large, regular curls; and two long, yellow ostrich feathers, tipped with 'ponceau,' are placed on the right side and bend over the head. Necklaces, ear-rings and bracelet of topaz and turquoise. Embroidered lace scarf with vandyke ends. White kid gloves; white satin shoes."

All that is so modern, or so in accordance with the fashion of to-day, that the costume would excite no remark if worn at a party. By the year 1824, evening dresses, at least, were not so bad. The walking dress of October, 1815, is spoiled by the bonnet. No woman in 1891 would make herself so ridiculous and uncomfortable as to pile on her head such a mountain of millinery. Surely, the former days were not better than these, so far as hats are concerned.

KATE KAUFFMAN.

CARE OF POTATOES AND APPLES.

When the potatoes and apples are brought into the cellar for winter use, they should be carefully sorted. Pick out the large, smooth potatoes, and those, too, which have not been much bruised in digging, and put away by themselves to use in the spring. The medium-sized, scabby and bruised potatoes should occupy a bin by themselves, and be used up first. The little ones can be stored up to boil for the chickens next winter, when Jack Frost has cut their supply of food short.

By the way, here is a point to be remembered: When you boil potatoes for the chickens, always turn off the water they are cooked in, and just use the potatoes; the water seems to be poison, and if fed very freely to poultry will kill them. I know by experience. If you wish to use bran with the potatoes, take clear water to wet it with; never use that from the potato-kettle.

A lady once said to me, "What is the use of bothering to sort potatoes? I just use the biggest ones I can find every day; then I am using the biggest all the time till they are gone, don't you see?" Yes, I could see, but that is not my way, for this reason: In the fall the potatoes are

plump, the skin thin and easily removed. A pan of quite small ones can be pared in half the time that the same measureful can be pared in April or May. Then the potatoes begin to shrivel up, the skin is tough and leathery, and we are very grateful for a pan of "big uns," and these can be easily had if one will only spend a little time in sorting, and use the smallest first. Just imagine a busy spring or summer day with a lot of work folks, and then have to sit down and pare a lot of "hickory nuts," that would probably be all that would be left under my friend's management. Potatoes that are bruised or cut badly in digging are liable not to keep very well, and so ought to be used in a short time.

When the apples are picked, care should be taken to keep the winter and good keeping varieties by themselves. Many of the fall apples are not worth putting into the cellar, they decay so rapidly. Dry the best ones, or make into apple-butter and preserves, and put the culls into cider and jelly. To this lot might be added the culls from the winter apples, too.

When the apples are put into the cellar, put the best keeping varieties first and furthest back in the row, finishing up the row with an empty barrel or box. When I want apples to use, I commence with the last barrel and put all sound ones into the empty barrel and bring up the desired quantity from those that are showing signs of decay, sometimes handling over half a barrel before getting enough to use from the soft ones. When the first barrel is emptied, commence on the second one, and put the sound apples into the now empty first one, and so on in rotation until ready to begin with the first one again. By following this plan we have had apples until May; one year until June.

I fancy I can hear some one laugh and scornfully say, "Catch me paring rotten apples all the time!" My friend, no one told you to pare rotten apples. They should be so carefully sorted that the rotten

spots are not allowed to become but a very small speck before they are used up. If they begin to decay rapidly, sort out a lot of them to dry, and make mince-meat; this can be canned, you know, and will keep two or three years, if properly put up in good glass cans. I can lots of apple-sauce, too. Oh, there are so many ways to use the apples and keep them from spoiling, and all kinds of sauce are thankfully resorted to when the apple divinity passes us by and leaves our fruit-trees barren and bare. "Take care of the goods the gods provide, and ye shall not go hungry and athirst in your old age."

CABBAGE.—We have a new way of preparing cabbage that we like very much. Chop very fine a small head of cabbage, and prepare a dressing as follows: Take half a cupful of sugar and fill up the cup with sweet cream. Beat them until foamy and pour over the cabbage, to which has previously been added a little salt and vinegar. Now mix thoroughly and you will have a dish fit for a king.

TOMATO PRESERVES.—To three fourths of a pound of sugar use one pound of tomatoes; add a little water to the sugar, place on the stove and let come to a boil before adding the fruit. After cooking awhile so that the seeds have separated, the tomatoes may be carefully dipped into another kettle and the juice strained over them again. You will thus get rid of many seeds that are quite distasteful to some people. Place the preserves back upon the stove, add a lemon or two, as the taste of good wife or man prefers, and let cook until as thick as required. If not very thick, put into glass cans and seal as any kind of fruit. It makes very nice sauce.

CONCERNING WOMEN.

Margaret Collier Graham, one of the Pacific coast writers, is to again enter the field; her stories are distinctively Californian. Mrs. Gra-



EVENING DRESS, MARCH, 1824.

ham is tall and slight in person, girlish in figure and graceful in movement. Her home is in South Pasadena, in southern California.

Mrs. Julia Schayer, who will contribute to one of the summer numbers of the *Century* a short story of Washington life, entitled "The Major's Appointment," is the wife of Col. George F. Schayer, the popular deputy register of deeds of Washington.

Anne Bozeman Lyon, author of "No Saint," is of fine old southern family, and lives with her mother and a younger sister in Mobile, Alabama. She is a young lady of handsome presence—tall, slight and fair, with large, gray eyes, straight features and a wealth of reddish-brown hair. Once a regular society girl, she is now, since engaging in literature, a thorough stay-at-home. She has written many strong sketches and some really excellent verse.

Anna Katherine Green, of Brooklyn, N. Y., is a graduate of Ripley Female College at Poultney, Vermont. She lived for many years in Buffalo, and in November, 1884, she married Charles Rohlf, of Brooklyn. Her novels are all detective stories, and very strong. She has also written some verse.

Mrs. Annie L. Y. Swart, the editor and owner of the *The Chaparrone*, St. Louis' fashion paper, recovered this week from a dangerous illness.

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WALKING DRESS, OCTOBER, 1815.

side of the figure. Necklace composed of bright topaz, set transparent, fastened with a diamond stud in the center. Topaz ear-rings of the fashionable shell form. Gold elastic bracelets. French kid gloves. White satin shoes with gold rosettes.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE BURDEN.

To everyone on earth
God gives a burden, to be carried down
The road that lies between the cross and
crown.
No lot is wholly free;
He giveth one to thee.

Some carry it aloft,
Open and visible to any eyes;
And all may see its form and weight and size.
Some hide it in their breast,
And deem it there unguessed.

Thy burden is God's gift,
And it will make the bearer calm and strong;
Yet, let it press too heavily and long,
He says, cast it on me,
And it shall easy be.

And those who heed his voice,
And seek to give it back in trustful prayer,
Have quiet hearts that never can despair;
And hope lights up the way
Upon the darkest day.

Take thou thy burden thus
Into thy hands, and lay it at his feet;
And, whether it be sorrow or defeat
Or pain or sin or care,
Leave it calmly there.

It is the lonely road
That crushes out the life and light of heaven;
But, borne with him, the soul, restored, for-
given,
Sings out, through all the days,
Her joy and God's high praise.
—M. F., in Christian Register.

CHRIST THE FUTURE KING.

THAT Christ is to be the future king of the world is one of the most glad some truths of revelation. What other hope is there for this sin-afflicted world? It has groaned under ages of misrule.

The riches of the earth are hoarded away in the vaults of a surfeited few, and the great mass of humanity are left to welter out a degraded existence of poverty, ignorance and misery. God's goodness has been fraudulently squandered. The provision, sufficient for competence to all who breathe this mundane atmosphere, has been rapaciously grasped by the unprincipled and the strong and stored away in accursed garners from famishing millions. This is true in the present nineteenth century of civilization as it was in the days of yore; only the system—venerable by its antiquity—is more respectable, has the protection of the law, and is recognized as the indispensable institution of a well-governed country. Among the people themselves, what barrenness and hideousness we behold! How intellectually empty! how morally destitute! how ignoble and selfish! how small and grovelling!

Some say the world is getting better. It is a mistake. Intellectual acuteness is on the increase; but real character is dwarfing with the increase of years. Maukind is deteriorating with the spread of civilization. Flimsiness and frivolity are the orders of the day. Thorough-going good sense and earnestness of moral purpose are confined to a minority. The word of God is lightly esteemed and faith has almost vanished from the earth. Where shall we find comfort for the future? The world is incurable by human agency. Its only hope is in the truth expressed in John 14:2, 3; 1 Thess. 4:16. A great deliverer is waiting the appointed time of blessing; Christ at God's right hand is the future king of the world. He who endured shame of a malefactor's cross is coming to wear the honor of a universal crown. Though dark be the clouds that usher in his august advent, and fierce the convulsions that will attend earth's deliverance, great will be the glory of the day he will bring, and everlasting repose that will settle on the everlasting hills.—*Messiah's Advocate.*

GOING TO BEGIN.

No good work that can be commenced at once should ever be postponed. Men sometimes compromise with their consciences by promising to abandon some pet vice at a future day. We have no faith in post-dated promises of reform. Persons who make them may think they are in earnest, but they deceive themselves. Why not resolve and execute simultaneously? If a habit is evil and dangerous, give it no quarter. Slay it on the spot. Respite vices are rarely conquered.

HIGHER CRITICISM.

Higher criticism seems to be carrying all before it now; but soon the rage will be over, and it will be laid away among the curiosities of worn-out speculation. Professor Luthardt can speak from experience on this subject. For nearly forty years he has been professor of theology at Leipsic, and an effective leader among the evangelical scholars of Germany. He has combated the rationalistic theories that were so popular and threatening a generation ago, and he has lived to see them dead and buried. Therefore he has no anxiety because of the new storms that have arisen.

In a recent article he utters these encouraging words: "We have had too many experiences in this respect, have seen too many hypotheses come and go. Who knows what grave-diggers already stand at the door? We older ones had experience in Baur's criticism of the New Testament, and some of us took an active part in opposing it. Where is that school now? What a stir D. F. Strauss made in his day. All who understand the matter now have abandoned the theory that the life of Jesus consists of myths. How many in Germany, even in scientific circles, compromised themselves by their attitude towards Renan's 'Life of Jesus.' Who ever speaks seriously of this French romance now?"

Let us, therefore, possess our souls in patience till these noisy theories pass into oblivion.—*Watchword.*

PREACH THE WORD.

We count it a sad feature of the church to-day that, instead of this healthy preaching, we have so much pulpit oratory, lyceum lectures on moral subjects, presentation of schemes for social improvement, laudation of men and events; all of which might find their appropriate places, but which are wholly out of place when brought into the Christian pulpit, which should be consecrated to one purpose only, the holding forth the word of life. Our Timothys need to have it sounded constantly in their ears: "Preach the Word" (2 Tim. 4:2). They who think God's word is but a narrow field to operate in have very little apprehension of its infinite scope and unfathomable depths. They who think that any moral or useful subject is "God's word," have very little apprehension of the immense gulf between truth and opinion, between inspiration and human wisdom. The Bible is dishonored by abandoning it for something more "taking" with an ear-itching crowd. But we hold that, although this crowd will not relish Bible exegesis and exposition, thoughtful souls will gather about the exegetical preacher and take a far higher delight in his preaching. It will not be the delight of a momentary ecstasy, but the delight of a sense of spiritual growth, a permanent and heavenly delight.—*Dr. Crosby.*

FAITHFUL IN THAT WHICH IS LEAST.

Be faithful in little things. Delude not yourselves with the idea that you can be uncertain and untrue in trifles, and yet be reliable and trustworthy in great matters. Trifles make up your life and are the ultimate test of fidelity. The best will cannot ripen into permanent greatness when the fearful power of negligent habit in trivial things has given bent and character to the soul. God's laws are not broken with impunity. Character is not constituted by a brilliant dash now and then, but is what we make it by the use of our powers in the routine affairs of current life. Only those who are faithful in the few things of common life are to rule over many things in the exalted stations of the heavenly realms.

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THE POULTRY YARD.

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EGGS AND THE SITTING HEN.

A COMMON result of poultry-keeping is to throw the delicate egg-producing mechanism out of gear. Eggs are produced from what is called surplus food; that is, food beyond that needed for the sustenance of the fowl. Some people knowing this overfeed their birds, while others keep them barely alive and wonder why they get no eggs.

Excess of certain foods causes the ova to be produced too rapidly. In the natural course of events, only one ovum should be produced in twenty-four hours and for five or six successive days. If two ova are produced in one day of twenty-four hours, various eccentricities result. Sometimes two pass into the oviduct together and a double-yelked egg results. Occasionally two perfect chickens may be hatched from one of these, but usually only one. Sometimes the one is possessed of abnormal parts, as a surplus of legs or wings. Another irregularity from the same cause is the production of one egg within another. The oviduct being irritated, contracting in front of the perfectly formed egg instead of behind it, forced it back until it met another yolk, when the two joined company and passed down the oviduct together.

Soft eggs result from too fattening food and too little exercise, the ovum passing down the oviduct too rapidly for the secretions to be made. None of these irregularities are to be met with in wild birds, and in others only when kept in confinement and overfed. There are no functions which suffer so much from confinement as those pertaining to the pro-

duction of eggs. A hen that has begun to lay will go on until the whole clutch has been completed, even though the conditions of its existence are changed in the meantime. This is why hens kept in small quarters, as in city yards, will lay one season and then cease. Those who can only afford such accommodations should get pullets just beginning to lay and dispose of them as soon as the first lot of eggs has been produced. When a hen has laid its first clutch, it is no longer to be regarded as even a second-class table bird.

The egg is composed of the yolk, the chalaza, or cords for holding it in proper position, and successive layers of white albumen. About these is the skin, and covering all is the shell. In packing eggs for hatching, some roll each one in paper, turning it over and over in the process. There is no more effectual way than this of rendering an egg infertile. An egg may be violently shaken and no harm result, but by turning it over and over the chalaza becomes twisted. For packing, a basket is better than a box, in having a handle and in affording more air, and hay is to be preferred to sawdust, inasmuch as the latter is apt to become a hardened mass by jarring and the eggs become either broken or injured.

The shell of an egg is really in three parts, the exterior, interior, and between them a structure of many-sided blocks, so arranged as to resist pressure. As hatching proceeds, the inner surface gives way, then the little blocks drop out and the outer shell becomes so fragile as to be easily broken by the picking of the chicks. The difference discernible in the various sorts of eggs is not so much due to the various kinds of birds by which they were produced, as by the condition of the individual birds producing them. In re-

CLEANING THE POULTRY-HOUSE.

With some the matter of cleaning out the poultry-house is not an important duty. Once a week, twice a month, or as often as it becomes foul, is the rule, but it is not always easy to determine when the work should be done by observation. Much depends on the manner of cleaning, the absorbent used, and the number of birds in the house. Then again, the weather should be consulted. If the air is cold and dry, there will sometimes be no odor arising from the droppings, and the birds will not then be very uncomfortable when the droppings are allowed to remain, but nothing more conduces to dampness and disease than a floor covered with filth. Unless some absorbent be used, the work of cleaning the poultry-house will be difficult. The object should be to prevent the droppings from adhering to the floor, which should be of boards, and tight, as a wooden floor is warm in winter, can be swept with a broom, and is therefore more easily cleaned. If the roost is placed over a wide board, which catches the droppings, the board should be always kept well covered with dry dirt, adding a peck of plaster to every two bushels of dirt, which should be sifted and in a fine condition. The larger portion of the droppings will fall on the board, but the floor will also catch a portion. Sawdust may be scattered over the dirt, also, with advantage. The proper way to clean is to first sweep the floor with an old, rough broom, then scrape the

careless or inexperienced breeder discovers "roup," "snuffles," "swelled head," "pip" and a score of other so-called fowl diseases among his stock, most of which are fairly chargeable for their origin to this neglect regarding proper ventilation.

We enjoin it upon all humane poultry-keepers, therefore, to see to it that their stock (especially when limited to houses and inclosed yards for the most part) is supplied daily with pure air, which costs nothing, in exchange for the foul atmosphere that naturally forms around them so rapidly, and which miasmatic vapor will swiftly rush out of the closed premises if vent be afforded.

Fresh air, clean water, varied food, and all the range you can give the birds in good weather, are chief requirements toward their health and thrift. Of these, pure breathing air may be counted as among the first important requisites.—*Poultry World*.

POULTRY-HOUSE, PIGEON-LOFT AND SHEDS.

A poultry-house, pigeon-loft and open sheds can be combined under one roof and the cost be but little. The design is given to show a house for two flocks of hens, the doors to the roosting apartments being on the sides, under the sheds, with an entrance hole near the bottom of the door. The window may be of one sash, but the partition of the roosting-room should be arranged so as to allow one half of the window to be used for giving light to each apartment. The upper portion of the house may be used for pigeons. The sheds may be open at one end only, or at both ends, but it is better to have one end open and the other end closed, with a small window at the closed end. The sheds are intended as resorts in severe weather, to allow the hens to exercise. It will be noticed that the boards form both the sides and the roof, thus entailing but a small cost. The house may be of any desired size, but 16-foot boards, elevated so as to allow 20 feet of space width on the ground, will allow each roosting apartment to be four feet wide and each shed to be six feet wide.

ROOM IN THE POULTRY-HOUSE.

The majority of the inquiries that come to us ask: "How many fowls can I keep in a house of a certain size?" Now in order to answer many, we will say that a safe rule is to allow ten square feet for each hen, or a flock of ten fowls in a house 20 by 10 feet, and one foot length of room on the roost. This calculation gives plenty of room on the floor, the place where it is most needed, especially in winter, when scratching room is necessary, as there are then periods when the hens must be kept up. We do not infer that a larger number cannot be kept in a house of the size mentioned, as it really can be made to accommodate double that number, but it is better to have a smaller flock well provided with room than a larger flock that is unprofitable. There is too much temptation to crowd fowls, and the desire to do so has caused disease and loss. The allowance of plenty of room will often induce the hens to lay all the winter, where otherwise they will become lazy and fat. Give them plenty of warmth and scratching room in winter, and you will not be far wrong, if at all.

SILOS.

It certainly would not pay to build silos for fowls unless the number was large, but there are several ways that may be put in operation without resorting to the silo. If our readers will procure a tight barrel, throw their green stuff in it loosely, burn some sulphur at the top of the barrel, and close the top on tight, confining the sulphur fumes in the barrel for half an hour, the loose material may be taken out and packed closely and tightly in a box and put away in the cellar till required. It will keep for two or three years, never sour, and will not be injured by the sulphur. Bear in mind that when it receives the sulphur fumes it must lay loosely in the barrel, so as to permit the fumes to penetrate every portion of the barrel. Then take it out of the barrel and trample it into a box, or another barrel, and a large quantity can thus be crowded into a small space. Unlike ensilage, it is preserved by the sulphur, and except to avoid evaporation of moisture, need not be kept entirely air-tight.

LOCATIONS FOR RAISING POULTRY.

A sandy location is best, as it is dry and free from filth. The rains often clean off a sandy soil by carrying the impurities downward. A side hill, the poultry-house on the south side, is best, and if possible a shade tree or two should be in the enclosure. However, as the houses can be made warm, and shade provided in several ways, the side hill and trees are not absolutely essential, but a dry location is very important. Dampness in the poultry-yard is the great assistant of roup, and should be avoided. On heavy clay soil, where the poultryman must build or do without poultry, a drain, made of tile, should be a feature of every yard. There is no cheaper or better method of keeping the fowls in health than by the use of drain-tile, especially where the land is somewhat level. On rolling land, covered ditches may be made, the object being not so much that of carrying off the surplus water from the surface, as to hasten the drying further down; but endeavor, if you can, to get sandy soil.

WE call attention to the WEST SHORE MAGAZINE's advertisement on page 14.

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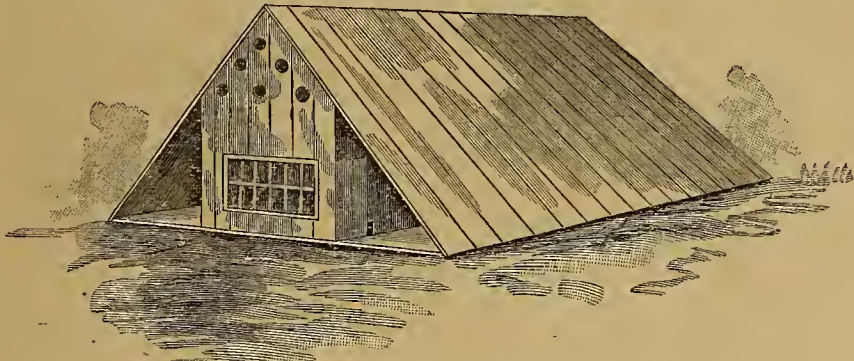
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FARM AND FIRESIDE, Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.



POULTRY-HOUSE, PIGEON-LOFT AND SHEDS.

floor with a hoe, and sweep again. Next scatter dirt or finely-sifted coal ashes over the floor, so as to cover it completely, and after cleaning off the board under the roost, rub kerosene on the roost. If this is done twice a week, only a few moments will be required for cleaning the poultry-house, and if done properly no odor will be distinguished therein. But the work should be done regularly and not semi-occasionally, so as to permit of confining the hens in damp weather. If the house is kept clean the fowls should be shut in on rainy days, and they will be less liable to danger from roup or colds.

BUILDING NEW HEN-HOUSES.

We deem it well to recommend, for economy's sake, that the walls be carried up not too high from the ground. The inside of a fowl-house need not be over seven or eight feet high at the eaves, on either side, with a "one-third pitch" above this for the roof. If the building has only a "shed" roof, or one slant of covering, the back wall may be three to five feet high, and the front seven or eight feet from the sills.

In all cases look well to the means of having the building thoroughly ventilated, when desired. An opening in the ridge for this purpose, or one at both sides of the house under the eaves, is best. Have a screen, trap-door or slide, inside, that may be raised or shut at will, conveniently.

Nothing is more surely conducive to good health in your poultry, continuously, than affording them pure air to breathe. In confined premises, where there is no opportunity for the rapidly accumulating foul air within to escape, chickens or adult birds cannot thrive. The breathing over and over of this impure atmosphere generates disease inevitably; and the

Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Flax as Green Manure.—J. H., White City, asks if flax used as green manure would not be as good as clover or peas, and if it would not gather nitrogen from the air. No. It does not gather nitrogen from the air, and does not equal clover or any other leguminous crop.

Hen Manure.—W. D. R., Waco, Ky., writes: "in your paper of October 15th is a statement that chicken manure is a valuable fertilizer to put in the hills of corn in spring. How ought it to be saved for that purpose? Should it be kept dry and mixed with something else, or should it be rotted? How should it be applied to the corn planting, and how much put in a hill? Is it as good as prepared bone-dust?"

REPLY:—The droppings can be saved dry in barrels or boxes. It would be well to mix plenty of gypsum or land-plaster with them, as it will absorb and hold the ammonia. It can be applied broadcast, or in the hill. A handful is usually put in each hill. It is not as rich as a good brand of superphosphate.

Bugs on Celery.—E. F. K., Homestead, Pa., writes: "Enclosed I send specimen of bugs found on my celery; also parts of stalks showing their way of operating. The stalk is usually punctured where the lowermost leaves branch out. What bug is it? How can I best get rid of it?"

REPLY BY F. M. WEBSTER, Entomologist, Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station:—The insects sent as injuring celery, are the tarnished plant-bug, *Lygus pratensis*, Beauv., and belongs to the same order of insects as the squash-bug and the chinch-bug. The species is very widely distributed, abundant, and one of the most troublesome pests of the garden and orchard. As long ago as 1833 they were observed to injure dahlias, marigolds, asters and balsams in the flower garden, and in the vegetable garden they worked havoc on young potatoes. Since that date they have been known to destroy the buds of apple, quince, pear, cherry and plum trees. Several years ago they appeared in the strawberry fields of Mr. Parker Earle, in southern Illinois, and destroyed thousands of dollars' worth of fruit by puncturing the young berries. This season they are attacking celery in several localities, especially in Indiana. There are two broods each year, one maturing in May and June, the other in July and August; the latter passing the winter about rubbish, among the leaves of mullen, and, in fact, anywhere where they can find protection from the weather. Effective remedies are difficult to apply, and I know of nothing better than kerosene emulsion. This is made by dissolving one quarter pound of hard soap in one half gallon of hot water, and while still hot, pour the mixture into one gallon of kerosene and churn, or otherwise agitate violently, until a thick, creamy substance is formed, which is mixed with eight or ten parts water, and applied with force-pump or garden syringe.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers, Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should enclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 35 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

A Morbid Growth and Chronic Swelling.—L. L. L., —. What you describe is a somewhat complicated affair, and if at all curable, would require a surgical treatment. At any rate it cannot be treated from a distance. Hence, the best you can do will be to employ a good veterinarian in whom you have confidence.

A Cow's Lips Swelled.—H. T., Earleton, Kan., writes: "I have a cow that was sick. Her lips swelled all around her mouth, her milk dried up, and her teats became very tender, turned black and the skin scaled off. I bathed her mouth with spirits of turpentine three times. She got well. Was it a disease or a snake bite?"

ANSWER:—It was probably a disease of an erysipelatous nature.

So-called Sweeney.—N. P., Jamison, Wash., wants a remedy for a bad case of sweeney.

ANSWER:—If the shrinking of the muscles is on the shoulder, and not due to protracted lameness, the best you can do is to give the animal rest or only voluntary exercise, good care and a sufficient quantity of nutritious food. If the horse is growing (what the farmers call sweeney, as a rule, only occurs in growing horses), everything will be all right in about six, eight or ten months. Medicines are useless, and certain operations now and then performed by ignorant persons, are worse than useless—do damage.

Treatment of Spavin and Ring-bone.—A. B. S., Bellows Falls, Vt., writes: "I wish to ask, through the FARM AND FIRESIDE, what I can do to cure my horse; also what ails him? He is nine years old. When he first starts out on a trot he is quite lame behind, but after going twenty or thirty rods he does not show it so much. He is lamer going up hill than down, and in going on level ground after traveling a mile or more at a slow trot he does not show it but a trifle, but the faster he goes the more he shows it. There is no swelling anywhere or heat, nor has he got hurt. He is not used a great deal, and he stood still most of the time. He has been lame all summer, but when he stops I can't see as he rests this limb any more than the others; possibly when he first stops he will rest this one first, if any. Do you think turning him loose this winter and giving him nothing but hay will help him?"

ANSWER:—What you describe is probably a case of spavin. Therefore, and because the winter season is at hand, and the proper time for successfully treating cases of lameness caused by spavin or ring-bone has arrived, I will give in the following a somewhat detailed description of the treatment required, not only for your benefit but also for that of such other subscribers of the FARM AND FIRESIDE

as may happen to have horses affected with spavin or ring-bone. The treatment of both diseases is essentially the same; at any rate, has the same object; that is, to produce ankylosis of the diseased bones, or, in other words, an immovable union of the affected articular surfaces. As such an ankylosed joint is stiff, spavin and ring-bone, or rather the lameness produced by these diseases, can be cured only if the latter have their seat in a joint that can be spared; in other words, in one of the semi-movable joints of the hock, or in the current joint, respectively. Hence, spavin situated in the upper part of the hock, or in the joint between the astragalus and the tibia, and ring-bone that extend to the pastern-joint or downward to the so-called coffin-joint, are incurable and not fit subjects for treatment. Also, all such cases in which the joints themselves are extraordinarily weak, that is, too weak to support the weight of the animal and to sustain the concussion, and cases in which the diseases, spavin and ring-bone, have made their appearance before the animal has done any work, or which have already been unsuccessfully treated, are better left alone, because in such cases, too, the treatment usually fails to produce the desired effect. Finally, a treatment will be but seldom successful if the affected animal is very wild and restless, because in such a case the restlessness of the animal prevents the formation of an ankylosis. To produce the latter, two things are necessary. First, a sufficient degree of an exudative inflammation must be produced in the affected joint, and secondly, the animal, or, at least, the diseased joint, must be kept as much at rest as possible. Consequently, an animal treated for spavin or ring-bone must be kept at rest in a stable for a certain length of time—usually two months—sufficient to produce ankylosis. The inflammation required must be severe enough to cause sufficient exudation, but it must not become destructive. How it is produced, whether by firing or by sharp ointments, is immaterial as far as success is concerned. Firing, unless executed very judiciously, leaves more or less conspicuous and ugly scars behind, which constitute a label that reads: "This horse has spavin," or "ring-bone," as the case may be. Indeed, they are a label which everyone can read, and, therefore, constitute, in most cases, a very objectionable blemish. If the firing is very judiciously executed, the blemish left behind may not be conspicuous and may be easily overlooked. Hence, when firing is resorted to, I advise to fire in small but moderately deep points, and not in lines. The worst firing possible is in lines which meet each other in acute angles, thus, for instance:



For the skin at the point of the angles will be destroyed, and the scar that is left behind will be large and ugly. Firing has one advantage, in so far as usually but one application will be required, but if a spavined or ring-boned horse has been fired, and the lameness is left uncured, the prospect of effecting a cure by further treatment—more firing or an application of sharp ointments—is rendered very slim. If a treatment by means of sharp ointments or liniments is preferred, an ointment or a liniment should be chosen which contains nothing that will destroy the roots of the hair. Consequently, anything that contains corrosive substances, such as arsenious acid, croton-oil, corrosive sublimate, euphorbium, tartar emetic, mineral acids, etc., must be rejected, because all these things will produce conspicuous and permanent blemishes, and besides that their action is not easily controlled. As a safe ointment, which in every respect answers the purpose, may be considered one which is composed of red biniodide of mercury, one part, and pure hog's lard, sixteen parts. In preparing it, however, care should be taken to get it thoroughly mixed by trituration. Of this ointment, as much as necessary may be rubbed in where the spavin or ring-bone is situated, at the beginning of the treatment. Then a second application may be made on the fourth day. On the seventh or eighth day crusts very likely will have formed. These, of course, interfere with a further application. It is, therefore, best to remove them. This is easily done by greasing them with a little clean lard. The next day they will be sufficiently loose to be scratched off. As soon as this has been done, another application of the ointment should be made. Thus, according to circumstances, one application may be made every fourth or fifth day. Of course, how much has to be rubbed in each time cannot be stated. It depends upon circumstances, and must be left to the judgment of the owner, or the one who makes the applications and conducts the treatment. As stated above, the degree of inflammation produced must be, and remain, a moderate one—exudative but not destructive. This treatment must be continued for about eight weeks. Then, after the effect—the inflammatory symptoms—of the last application has disappeared, the animal may be taken out of his stall on a walk and be walked a short distance, say a few hundred feet. If no lameness is visible, the animal should be returned to his stall until next day, when the same may be taken out for a somewhat longer walk, say for one eighth of a mile. On the third day a slow trot for a short distance may be allowed; on the fourth day the exercise may be somewhat extended; and so the tests may be gradually increased. If no lameness whatever is observed, the animal in about ten days or two weeks may be considered cured, and be put to work.

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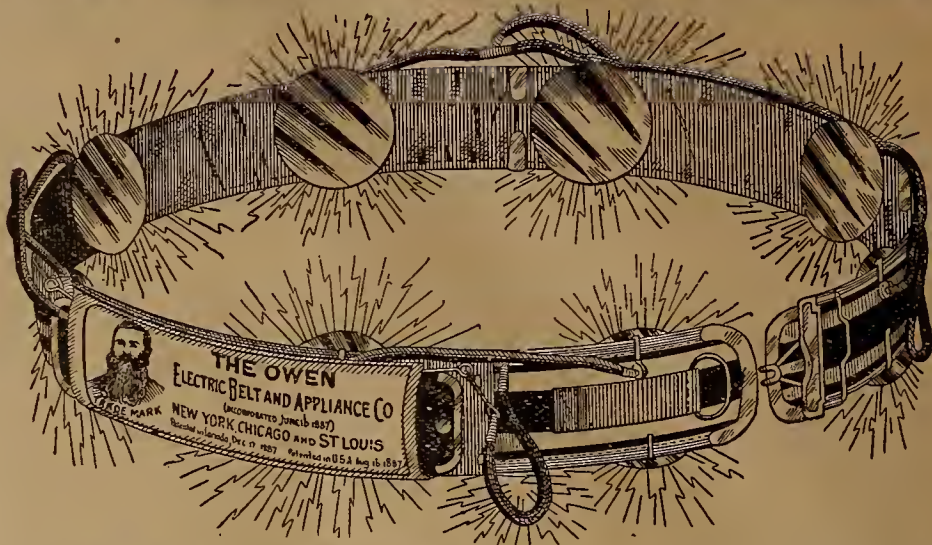
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\$400 IN GOLD Given Away

In order to create an interest in Bible study and to build up a large subscription list, the publishers of the Northwestern Evangelist have decided to give away absolutely free to its new subscribers \$400 in gold coin, to be distributed as follows: To the first person who tells us where the word RIVER first appears in the Holy Bible we will give \$100. To the second person who tells us correctly we will give \$75. The third correct answer will entitle the sender to \$50. If we receive a fourth correct answer we will give the sender \$25, and if we receive fifteen more correct answers the senders will receive \$10 each. This makes 19 valuable presents, which we give away simply to introduce our Great Religious Paper, The Northwestern Evangelist, which is the leading religious and family paper of the great Northwest. It is backed by ample capital and will do exactly as it agrees. Articles from the pen of such writers as Talmage and Spurgeon appear in every number. The names of those who receive presents will be published in the January issue, consequently this offer is good until December 30th only. When answering this advertisement be sure to inclose 35 cents P. O. stamps to pay for a four-months subscription to our paper, as you cannot compete for the presents unless you subscribe. Do not delay; you are bound to get a present if you write now. If you are not the first you are liable to be the second or third. Even if you are the 19th you get \$10. Be sure and send 35c. for a four-months subscription to our paper or no attention will be paid to your letter. We are reliable, and refer to any minister or bank in Seattle. Address SEATTLE TRACT HOUSE, Seattle, Wash.

Our Miscellany.

THE actual length of the New St. Clair tunnel is 6,026 feet. It cost \$1,460,000.

MICHELSON has calculated the velocity of light to be 186,360 miles per second.

INITIALS on house linen are much darned over before being worked to raise the letter.

FASHIONABLE men in Paris and London are now using electricity as a cure for excessive tipping.

To remove tar from cloth, rub cloth well with turpentine, and every trace of tar will be removed.

A TEMPERATURE of 220 degrees below zero has been produced by a bath of carbon bisulphide and liquid nitrous acid.

THE largest steer in Illinois, and probably in the world, weighs 4,500 pounds and belongs to a Macoupin county farmer.

AN American contractor is to build a railroad from the Amazon to the Madeira, connecting Brazil with Bolivia.

CLEAR summer sunlight is said to penetrate the Mediterranean sea to a depth of 1,200 feet; winter sunlight to only 600 feet.

THE five states of Iowa, Kansas, Illinois, Nebraska and Missouri produce fully one half of the corn crop of the United States.

A CUBIC foot of newly fallen snow weighs five and one half pounds and has twelve times the bulk of an equal weight of water.

IN a certain portion of the Ural district camels are the only working cattle used, some large farms possessing a hundred camels.

A CABBAGE stalk, on which fourteen heads of cabbage are growing, is on exhibition in the office of a New Bedford, Mass., newspaper.

THE constitution of the United States has been published in New York in the Hebrew language, with explanatory notes in Hebrew.

A WILD goose killed in California had a grain of wheat in its crop, which, when planted, produced a variety hitherto unknown.

THE bicycle has become almost as popular in Germany as it is in the United States. The German Union of Bicyclists now has over 1,400 members.

A COLORED preacher in Kentucky has made a big sensation by declaring that the "forbidden fruit" spoken of in the Bible is meant for watermelons.

PERFECT mutton will be firm and juicy, a rather dark red in color, and with a good deal of hard, clear, white fat, much more in proportion to the lean than in beef.

AN excellent use for oyster shells is to clean the fire-brick of the stove. Lay a number of them on top of the hot coals, and when the fire burns down it will be found that all the clinkers have scaled off the bricks.

FOR burns, turpentine is invaluable, applied either with a rag or in a salve. The pain vanishes, and healthy granulation soon begins. Its use is at first attended with considerable smarting, but the permanent good more than compensates for it.

CHAMOIS skins are not derived from the chamois, as many people suppose, but are the flesh side of sheepskins. The skins are soaked in lime-water and in a solution of sulphuric acid; fish-oil is poured over them and they are carefully washed in a solution of potash.

IN the early stages of croup or almost any throat or chest trouble, turpentine is well-nigh a specific. Rub the chest and throat until the skin is red; then tie a piece of flannel or cotton-batting over the chest, moistened with a few drops of the oil, and inhale the vapor.

AS an inhalation, turpentine has proved of great service in bronchitis, pneumonia, pleurisy and other throat and lung affections. If you have a cough, sprinkle a little on a handkerchief and hold it to your mouth and nose for a few minutes, breathing the vapor, and note the relief.

KANSAS has reason to be proud of her women office-holders. Mrs. Kellogg, of that state, makes an admirable Assistant Attorney-General; and Mrs. Salter, who is now serving her second term as mayor of Argonia, is said to have done all the housework for her family of five people, as well as given due attention to her public and social duties during her tenure of office.

ONLY the best and largest oysters should be chosen for frying. Dip them one by one in flour, then in beaten eggs, season with salt and the merest dash of cayenne, dip again in powdered butter-cracker, and fry them in boiling hot fat deep enough to float a doughnut. Turn them in frying, and cook them in all for four minutes. Drain them thoroughly, lay them for a moment on coarse brown paper to absorb any fat that may cling to them, and serve them at once in a folded napkin on a hot dish, accompanied by quarters of lemon and wafer-like slices of brown bread, daintily buttered.

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WORLD'S FAIRIES.

A New York company that manufactures self-winding clocks has offered to furnish free of cost all the time-pieces that will be needed in the buildings during the fair.

The National Association of Woollen Manufacturers and the American Pottery Association have each decided to make an exhibit at the exposition, such as has never before been seen in this country.

All Indians who wish to take part in the Indian congress at the world's fair, are requested to communicate with H. J. Jaxon, who is chairman of the committee of reception and arrangements for visiting Indians. Mr. Jaxon's address is No. 170 Washington street, Chicago.

The magnitude of the building operations now going on at Jackson Park can be surmised from the fact that an average of from thirty-five to forty car-loads of construction material arrives daily. The exposition buildings are rising with wonderful rapidity.

Between three hundred and forty and three hundred and fifty men are employed in perfecting the landscape features of the exposition site. It is the intention to make the grounds exceedingly beautiful by walks, drives, lawns, terraces, fountains, shrubbery and flowers. Several hundred thousand dollars are to be expended for this purpose.

The First Infantry Regiment, National Guard of California, has decided to attend the exposition in a body, and has inaugurated a plan for providing for the expenses of the trip.

A gentleman writes the Texas World's Fair Association from Williamson county that he has quite an interesting historical relic in the shape of a cast-iron slack-trough which was captured by General Sam Houston from Santa Anna, at the battle of San Jacinto, and that he wishes to contribute it to the Texas exhibit at the world's fair. He will be requested to send it to the headquarters at Fort Worth, whence it will be sent to Chicago at the proper time.

One of the unique features of the Mexican exhibit at the fair will be the celebrated Pandure family, consisting of five persons, who are probably the most expert workers in clay and modelers of figures in the world. This family will be sent to Chicago by the state of Gaudalajara. It is the intention to provide a Mexican house for them to live in during the fair, and a workshop where their work may be inspected.

Director George Schneider has received advice from Berlin to the effect that the associated chemical works of the German empire had agreed to make a full and comprehensive exhibit at the exposition in 1893. As is well known, the German empire leads the world in the matter of chemical manufactures, and the exhibit thus determined upon cannot fail to be one of the most attractive and instructive at the exposition.

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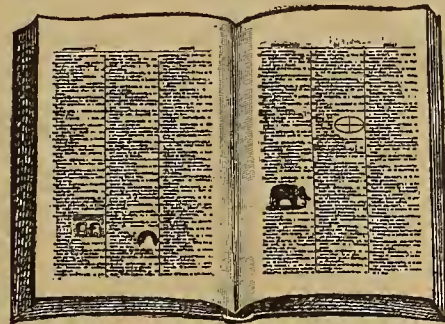
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Measures of Length.

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Weight of a Bushel—Of grains and vegetables.

Weight of a Gallon—Of various liquids.

Weights of Various Substances—As a cubic foot of clay, cork, marble, copper, tin, etc.

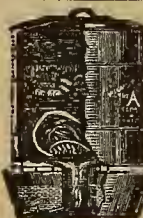
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The unparalleled success of our salesmen warrants us in promising permanent employment and large profits to all who work for us faithfully. Our Agent in Washington County, Pa., for instance, has during the past years SOLD THOUSANDS of Cookers here. This year he writes that he "expects to sell more than ever." This speaks volumes for the Cooker as well as the business. The average sales of our Agent at Hartland, Vt., amount to \$400 per month. His sales have run as high as \$456 in 18 days. We can multiply instances of this kind indefinitely. Unless every family in your county is already using the **ARNOLD AUTOMATIC STEAM COOKER**, confidential terms immediately, before another slips in ahead of you. Don't delay. This will appear but once. Address WILMOT CASTLE & CO., Rochester, N. Y.

A TUB OF SILVER

CAN BE MADE IN THREE MONTHS

by any person who will send us their address AT ONCE. We do not wish responses from the rich, for this is a BOON for the poor or middle class, that need a few thousand dollars to put them on their feet. Such an opportunity never crossed your path before. A case of goods will be sent you by mail, if you send 10 cts. for package and postage that will open your way to fortune. Address, H. A. ELLS & CO., 161 LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY GIFT OFFER.

Our Royal Crimson Silk Velvet Plush Stationery Box. It is of the extreme large size, 7 in. long, 5 1/2 in. wide, 3 in. thick, the inside is decorated in the most artistic and beautiful manner, and contains 24 sheets of superfine commercial note paper, 24 superfine commercial envelopes, 1 solid German silver practical fountain penholder and golden pen, the latest and best fountain pen made, writes 5,000 words without refilling, and contains all the writing tools any man, woman or child possibly needs, and readily sells for many times its price. It also contains a exquisite lead pencil and 1 blotting pad. The box on the outside is covered with genuine crimson silk velvet plush, such cases have been selling for as much as \$10. To introduce our goods we will send you our Royal Crimson Silk Velvet Plush Stationery Box for only 66c. Charges all prepaid and satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. This offer is made only to those who will endeavor to introduce our goods, otherwise we charge \$4.00. Send 66c and this advertisement to Wm. Williams, 125 South Halsted St., Chicago, Ill. FREE! The first 100 replies ordering this set will receive one, one pair gold plated doublet diamond ear rings, one rolled gold French diamond ring, one rolled gold French diamond stud, and one pair cuff buttons. BE IN TIME.

ASTHMA CURED!

Schiffmann's Asthma Cure never fails to give instant relief in the worst cases; insures comfortable sleep; effects CURE where other remedies fail. A trial convinces the most skeptical. Price 50c, and \$1.00, of Druggists or by mail. Sample Free for stamp. DR. R. SCHIFFMANN, St. Paul, Minn.

AGENTS

\$10.00 A DAY.

THE HEALTH CALENDAR is a Housekeeper's Kitchen Help, with Bill of Fare for each day and reliable information generally. 250,000 sold! 1892 edition is better than ever. Retail 30c. Sells to every housekeeper. The 30c paid for sample will be refunded when \$2 worth are sold. Get sample, terms and territory quick. HOUSH & CO., Brattleboro, Vt. Mention Farm and Fireside.

WE PAY EXPRESS CHARGES.

IT'S FREE!

Cut this ad. out and send to us and we will send you this beautiful Solid Gold plated watch, by express and if you do not find it equal to any watch retailed at \$28.00 and worth 4 times the price we ask you need not pay one cent, otherwise pay the express agent \$6.00 and the watch is yours. The movement is a full jeweled Elgin style lever, expansion balance, quick train (18000 beats) with oil tempered Pinion and Hair spring. It is a durable and accurate time keeper. The case is made of composition metal over which is placed 2 plates solid 14k Gold. This watch is fully warranted 15 years. In carrying this watch you have the credit of owning a solid gold watch and for use is just as desirable. State which you want Ladies or Gents size also your post and express office. If you send full amount (\$6.00) with order we will send by reg. mail and include a gold-plated chain which would cost you nearly the price of watch. KIRTLAND BROS. & CO., 62 Fulton St., N. Y. Be sure to mention Farm and Fireside.



500 Crystal Glass Water Sets Free

Splendid Premium Offers—Look for Water.

WE want the address of 200,000 families for the purpose of sending our Mammoth Catalogue of Watches, Diamonds and Fancy Goods, to accomplish this we make you this Grand Offer. The person telling us the place in the Bible where the word water is first found, (Book, Chapter and Verse), before Jan. 15th, will receive a handsome Parlor Organ, valued at \$125.00. Should there be more than one correct answer each of the next three persons a beautiful Parlor Organ valued at \$100.00, each of the next ten persons handsome Parlor Organ valued at \$75.00, the next 20 persons will each receive a beautiful 56 piece Tea Set, each of the next 5 persons will receive a splendid Family Sewing Machine valued at \$65.00, the next ten persons will receive each a stem wind Hunting Case 14k Gold Plated Watch, ladies or gents size, each of the next five hundred will receive one of our beautiful Crystal Glass Water Sets, the last two persons will receive a handsome Dress Pattern of Silk valued at \$25.00, with your answer send us 25 cents (silver if you can or stamps) and the address of three families, for which we will send you our Agents Complete Sample Case in which will be neatly packed 120 articles for which there is a constant demand at cash prices. We will also send our Catalogue and confidential prices, which with this sample outfit will enable any industrious person of ordinary intelligence to win a fortune and get the reward, address Kirtland Bros. & Co., 62 Fulton St., N. Y.



FREE.

Smiles.

THE BABY.

The little tottering baby feet,
With faltering steps and slow,
With pattering echoes soft and sweet,
Into my heart they go.
They also go, in grimy plays,
In muddy pools and dusty ways,
Then through the house in trackful maze
They wander to and fro.

The baby hands that clasp my neck
With touches dear to me,
Are the same hands that smash and wreck
The ink-stand foul to see.
They pound the mirror with a cane;
They rend the manuscript in twain;
Widespread destruction they ordain
In wasteful jubilee.

The dreamy, murmuring voice
That coos its little tune,
That makes my listening heart rejoice
Like birds in leafy June,
Can wake at midnight dark and still
And all the air with bowling fill,
That splits the ear with echoes shrill,
Like cornets out of tune.

—R. J. Burdette.

ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT.

GENERAL THOMAS was greatly beloved among the private soldiers. As Napoleon became the Little Corporal of his army, so was this man affectionately remembered as "Old Pap Thomas" by the Army of the Cumberland. He was always ready to do the "little kindnesses" which go straight to the popular heart, and once, when he had refused a boon, was reprieved in a way which decidedly amused him.

A private soldier, who was very homesick, went to headquarters to obtain leave of absence. The general asked him why he wanted a furlough, and the poor fellow replied, in the most dejected manner:

"General, I haven't seen my wife for more than three months."

"Why," said the officer, "that's nothing. I haven't seen my wife for over three years."

"Well," said the soldier, "that may be, General, but me and my wife ain't them kind!"
The furlough was granted.

MEAN.

To the large number of stories of "the meanest man," which are frequently related, one should be added of a certain Frenchman, famous for his habit of grumbling at everything and on every occasion.

He was attacked by inflammatory rheumatism, and was carefully nursed by his wife, who was very devoted to him in spite of his fault-finding disposition. His suffering caused her to burst into tears sometimes, as she sat at his bedside.

One day a friend of the invalid's came in and asked him how he was getting on.

"Badly, badly!" he exclaimed; "and it's all my wife's fault."

"Is it possible?" asked the friend, in surprise.

"Yes. The doctor told me that humidity was bad for me; and there that woman sits and cries, just to make it moist in the room!"

THE CLERGYMAN AND THE JOCKEY.

A clergyman who is in the habit of preaching in different parts of the country was, not long since, at a country hotel, where he observed a horse jockey trying to take in a simple gentleman by imposing upon him a broke-down horse for a sound one. The parson knew the bad character of the jockey, and taking the gentleman aside, told him to be cautious of the person he was dealing with. The gentleman declined the purchase, and the jockey, quite nettled, observed:

"Parson, I had much rather hear you preach than to see you privately interfere in bargains between man and man in this way."

"Well," replied the parson, "if you had been where you ought to have been, last Sunday, you might have heard me preach."

"Where was that?" inquired the jockey.
"In the state prison," returned the clergyman.

A STOKER'S EXPLANATION OF THE STEAM ENGINE.

"This 'ere furnace, gen'l'men, heats that 'ere water; and that 'ere water is in this 'ere boiler; and that there pistern-rod is moved up and down by the steam from this 'ere boiler; and them 'ere pisterns acts upon them rods, which turns the axles of the paddles, and the paddles their selves in consequence."—From *Pickwick Abroad*, by G. W. M. Reynolds.

HOW'S THIS?

We offer One Hundred Dollars reward for any case of catarrh that cannot be cured by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him.

WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. WALKING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

TYING A SHOE-STRING.

Does your daintily-fashioned shoe bother you with a trailing shoe-string, threatening to trip you up? Then tie it as follows: Proceed exactly as if you were about to tie an ordinary bow knot, but before you draw it up, pass the right hand loop through the knot; give a steady and simultaneous pull on both loops, and you may tread the sands of time or the ocean beach all day, and waltz into the wee sma' hours of the morning, and that shoe-string will never trip you up. In untying, be sure to pull the right hand line and the string will readily loosen, but if you pull the other you will find it as hard to unfasten as some hastily-tied matrimonial knots. — *Boston Herald*.

DIDN'T WANT THAT KIND.

"Nice carpets. Can't be beat," said the salesman.

"I know it," said the customer, sadly. "I bought some of them last year, and when I tried to beat them last week they fell to pieces. I want something that will stand a triennial thrashing." — *Harper's Bazar*.

AN UNEXPECTED ANSWER.

"And, ladies and gentlemen," roared the temperance lecturer, "what has filled more graves than whiskey?"

"Doctors," squeaked a still, small voice in the back part of the hall. — *Detroit Free Press*.

HER MISTAKE.

"I have been requested to lay the cornerstone of the new chicken-house," said the hen, proudly.

"Pshaw!" replied the rooster; "what do you take yourself for—a Plymouth Rock?"

AT THE FIRE.

Smith—"It's a sad thing to see a big business like this swept away in one night."

Schmitski—"Vell, I dunno; he was insured. It was a quick way of realizing on your stock."

A MISTAKE.

Teacher (in grammar class)—"Tommy, correct the sentence, 'I kissed Susan once.'"

Tommy (promptly)—"I kissed Susan twiet." — *The Epoch*.

LITTLE BITS.

"Though I speak but one language, I am familiar with many tongues," said the physician. — *Buffalo Enquirer*.

"Why, Mr. Ardent, how ungallant of you, to say you thought I was 32!" "Well, it certainly struck me that you were somewhere near the freezing point." — *Life*.

Doctor—"There is one thing more. Your wife must not speak a word to-day. Tell her that." Patient husband—"W-would you mind telling her yourself?" — *Dorffarbier*.

"What is this spontaneous combustion, anyhow?" "It's a fire that lights itself." "By George, that's just the thing! I'll lay in a stock of 'em for the furnace next winter." — *Puck*.

Correspondence editor—"Here's a fellow who wants to know how he can acquire a flow of language. What shall I say to him?" Snake editor—"Ask him if he ever tried stepping on a tack with his bare feet."

"I told Dr. Wray the other day that I believed I was the only living example of his patients." "Was he embarrassed?" "Not a bit; he acknowledged it." "What did he say?" "Said he was sorry to say I was." — *Elmira Gazette*.

A New York woman hopped out of bed the other night, flung her arms around a burglar and held him while her husband ran several blocks for a policeman. All of which goes to show that the husband was not of a jealous disposition. — *Detroit Free Press*.

He told his son to milk the cows, feed the horses, slop the pigs, hunt the eggs, feed the calves, catch the colt and put him in the stable, cut plenty of wood, split kindlings, stir the milk, put fresh water in the creamery after supper, and to be sure to study his lessons before he went to bed. Then he hurried off to the club to take a leading part in the question: "How to keep boys on the farm." — *Covington Enterprise*.

DONALD KENNEDY

Of Roxbury, Mass., says

Kennedy's Medical Discovery cures Horrid Old Sores, Deep Seated Ulcers of 40 years standing, Inward Tumors, and every disease of the skin, except Thunder Humor, and Cancer that has taken root. Price \$1.50. Sold by every Druggist in the U. S. and Canada.

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YOUR HOME WILL BE HAPPIER, AND LIFE WILL BE BRIGHTER AND PLEASANTER FOR YOUR WIFE.
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Washwoman will save a half day every week by using one. There is NO SLOP, NO STEAM, NO ODOR.
Send for Catalogue of Clothes Reels, Ironing Tables, Wash Benches, Wringers, Etc., AGENTS WANTED on LARGE COMMISSIONS. Address THE EMPIRE WASHER CO., Jamestown, N. Y.



Worth \$45

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WITHOUT ONE CENT OF MONEY, FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES. If any boy or girl under 18 wants an elegant High Grade Safety Bicycle (26 inch wheels) worth \$45, they can obtain it free, without one cent of money. We shall give away, on easy conditions, 1,000 or more. We deliver the Bicycle free of all charges anywhere in the U. S. If you want one write at once to WESTERN PEARL CO., 334 (Formerly 305) Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. Mention this paper. Mention this paper when you write.

It is an old-fashion notion that medicine has to taste bad to do any good.

Scott's Emulsion is cod-liver oil with its fish-fat taste lost—nothing is lost but the taste.

This is more than a matter of comfort. Agreeable taste is always a help to digestion. A sickening taste is always a hindrance. There is only harm in taking cod-liver oil unless you digest it. Avoid the taste.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, 132 South 5th Avenue, New York.
Your druggist keeps Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil—all druggists everywhere do. \$1.



FREE THE NEW AMERICAN MUSICAL BOX. To introduce them, one in every County or town furnished reliable persons (either sex) who will promise to show it. Excelsior Music Box Co., Box 2126, N.Y. City. Mention this paper.

A LOT FOR LOT'S WIFE

In order to get new subscribers, the Publishers of the West Shore Magazine will send it Six Months on trial for only 50 cts., P. O. stamps. The West Shore is the grandest and largest Magazine in the Northwest. It is 17 years old, and its publishers have won a name for perfect honesty and square dealing. They are absolutely reliable and refer to any bank in their State. To introduce their Magazine they give away thousands of dollars in cash prizes to their new subscribers and Real Estate to a much greater value.
Any one who sends 50c. stamps for a trial subscription, before Jan. 1st, 1892, may send an answer to the following scriptural question: Where in the Holy Bible does it tell what Lot's Wife turned into? (Give chapter and verse.)



To the first one sending the correct answer to the above question we will give a Seattle Building Lot. Seattle is the largest city in the most promising State of the Union. Real Estate actually doubles in value every four years; so the lot we offer will constantly increase. The second one sending the correct answer will receive \$500 in gold. If there should be a third, it will entitle the sender to \$250 in gold. The fourth will receive \$100 in gold, and the fifth will receive \$50 in gold. If there should be any more correct answers, the next forty-five will receive \$25 in gold each, and the next fifty senders of correct answers will receive \$10 each. Thus we offer One Hundred Valuable Presents, which we will give away simply to introduce our great Magazine. The names of those who send the first correct answers will appear in the West Shore Magazine for Jan. 15th, 1892. As this offer is made only to new subscribers, be sure to inclose 50c., P. O. stamps, for a trial subscription, or no notice will be taken of your letter. If you can find the correct answer at once, you will be sure to get a present; even if not the first, you may be the second or third. Address THE WEST SHORE CO., PIONEER PLACE, SEATTLE, KING CO., WASH. Mention this paper when you write.

CANDY 5000 We will give free to every boy or girl in the United States who will do us a slight favor, 4 1/2 Pounds of Candy, French Mixed, Broken and Chocolate Creams. It will not cost you a single cent; we just give it to you for advertising purposes, and we send it prepaid anywhere in the U. S. If you never had as much candy as you wanted all at one time this is your great big sure chance to get it free. It will be great for Christmas, if you don't eat it before. If you want it send us your name and address at once to BOYS WESTERN PEARL CO., Chicago, Ill. Always mention Farm and Fireside.

OLD COINS WANTED. \$1,000 for 1804 dollar, \$5.75 for 1833 quarter, \$2 for 1856 ct., and Big Prices for 200 other kinds if as required. Send stamp for particulars. W. E. Skinner, 325 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

BICYCLES ON EASY PAYMENTS. No extra charge. All makes new or 2d hand. Lowest prices guaranteed. Send for cata and save money. Rouse, Hazard & Co., 32 E St. Peoria, Ill.

Watches Sent on Trial to any address, All Express charges prepaid by us. Send your name and address at once on postal card and we will send you illustrated catalogue by return mail to select from. **HOLLY WATCH CO.,** Jersey City, New Jersey.

THIS WATCH FREE. We wish to secure 25,000 agents for our new watch (the Admiral). To induce honest workers to start at once we have decided to give every agent a sample watch free. If you want profitable employment and an elegant watch free send us 22 cents (stamps) and we will send you the watch and terms of agency. The Admiral is an accurate time keeper with quick beat train highly finished and jeweled, with one silver case, cut (13 size) is correct illustration of watch we send. Give both your Post office and Express Office address. Address, **KIRTLAND BROS. & CO. 62 FULTON ST., N. Y.** Mention this paper when you write.

Grasp a Fortune! \$200 a Month at Home or to Travel. **\$10 OUTFIT FREE** Biggest Commission ever paid and a Solid Gold Watch Free to every one. An Outfit consists of Copies of our two Magazines, and one of each of the following 20 Large and Beautiful Oleograph Pictures. Finest ever produced. Read the list.

The Old, Old Story, The Harvest Field, (Comic.) The Morning Prayer, The Old Mill, Moonlight on the Sea, Springtime on the Ohio, Basket of Flowers, Winter Landscape, The Mill Stream, Hayting Time, Pluck No. 1, Comic, Pluck No. 2, Comic, On The Beach, Christmas, Many Happy Days, I'm King, (Comic.) Old Oaken Bucket, The Pride of the Homestead, Worn Out, The Old Stone Bridge. If you will write us a letter saying that you will show these beautiful pictures to your friends, we will send you a complete outfit free. Enclose 22 cents to pay postage and as a guarantee that you mean business. After you send us a few orders the 22 cents may be returned by you. Better send to-day. Address, The Haverfield Publishing Co., Cadiz, Ohio.

A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE. If you want to be sure and get into a ten thousand dollar a year business where dollars roll right into your pockets without hardly any effort on your part, don't delay a minute, but write to Giant Ozie Co., Augusta, Maine for particulars and free samples to start you in an honorable Summer, Fall and Winter business. Remember "Time and Tide wait for no man," and a postal in time saves you much disappointment, so don't allow anyone to get in ahead of you. Write today.

A BIG OFFER 50c. MADE IN A MINUTE! If you will hang up, in the P. O., or some public place, the two show bills that we send, we will give you a 50c. cert., and send it in one minute, and then if you want to work on salary at \$50 or \$100 per month, let us know. We pay in advance. **GIANT OZIE CO., 21 Willow St., Augusta, Me.** Mention this paper when you write.

CATARRH CURED A Clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to **Coryza Remedy Co., 2006 Ninth Avenue, New York**, will receive the recipe free of charge. (Mention this paper.)

If afflicted with sore eyes use **Dr. Thompson's Eye-Water**



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IT COST YOU NOTHING
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THIS IS OUR LEADER. A heavy, strong, oak-tanned
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PAY A CENT and it will be returned at our expense.
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Mention Farm and Fireside.

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POROUS PLASTERS.

Persons with weak lungs—those who
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an **ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTER** over the
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blades during cold weather. Remember
they always strengthen and never weaken
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not be deceived by imagining any other
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Buy the **ROYAL TREAD POWER**
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Self-adjusting boxes, dust proof oil cups
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VOL. XV. NO. 5.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., and SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, DECEMBER 1, 1891.

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are printed. The Eastern edition being
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Farm and Fireside has More Actual
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Current Comment.

THE nineteenth annual session of the Ohio State Grange was held in Springfield the second week of last month. The cordial welcome extended to the delegates in attendance added to the pleasure of a very profitable and successful meeting. The reports rendered show that the order in Ohio is in an excellent condition, and that the outlook for the future is very encouraging. The executive committee reported that the co-operative purchasing of farm supplies the past year had been a success, and that their efforts in securing legislation favorable to agriculture had also been successful. The following resolutions, which were adopted, show the position and demands of the Patrons of Husbandry in this state:

First—That we give credit to the last general assembly of Ohio for giving to the farmers of the state some of the legislation they have been asking for; namely, the Australian ballot law and the law making the office of dairy and food commissioner an elective one.

Second—That the state should see that all school books and supplies are uniform and are furnished to the people at cost, and that we believe the present law does not satisfy the demands of the people.

Third—That we reiterate our oft-repeated opposition to the giving to or accepting of any free railroad pass by any public official, either representative, executive or judicial, and favor the passage of such laws as will make it unlawful for any public official to receive such passes.

Fourth—That we demand the reduction of the rate of passenger tariff on Ohio railroads to two cents a mile; and we affirm that we believe travel would be increased so that railroad companies would lose nothing, and the people could enjoy the pleasure of more travel.

Fifth—That we believe the compensation to county officers should yet be reduced below that given them by the law passed by the last general assembly.

Sixth—That all property and franchises should be listed for taxation at their full value less any bona fide indebtedness of the owner thereof, and that the constitution should be so amended as to permit this.

Seventh—We demand the rigid enforcement of the dairy and pure food laws of the state of Ohio, and protest against any legislation that shall impair the value of or retard the work of the dairy and food commissioner.

Eighth—We believe that intelligence is the motive power that moves the world, and that statistics show that women are fully as intelligent as men, and they are subject to the same penalties of law as men; we therefore demand for them the right to help make these laws by extending to them the right of suffrage.

Ninth—That we declare the traffic in intoxicating drinks an evil that is the prolific source

of poverty, crime and wretchedness; and that any revenue that can be collected from it sinks into insignificance in comparison with its enormous cost and attendant evils. We therefore declare that all legislation on the subject should be for the total suppression of the traffic as a beverage.

Tenth—That we favor the election of the United States senator by direct vote of the people.

Eleventh—That we favor the issue by the general government of not less than \$40 per capita of full legal tender, money to consist of gold, silver and paper, on a parity with each other.

Twelfth—That the game laws of Ohio be so changed as to give the land owners the legal ownership of all fish and game on their farm, and the control of the same.

Thirteenth—That our state legislature be asked to pass a law that will regulate the charges of stock-yard companies for feeding stock in transit.

Fourteenth—That we recommend the appointment of the executive committee of the state grange as a legislative committee, and we also recommend the appointment by the Pomona or subordinate granges in each county of the state, one suitable person to act with the executive committee, as a legislative committee, and that said counties report name and address of such persons to chairman of state executive committee at once.

Fifteenth—That the members of the Ohio state grange congratulate the post-office department on its successful effort towards adopting the free delivery of mail throughout the rural districts, and hope that it will continue to adopt the plan wherever practicable.

Sixteenth—That we return our sincere thanks to the citizens of Springfield, and especially to the reception committee, for the kindness shown us all, and will say we shall always remember them with gratitude. We especially thank Brother Holman for his successful efforts in securing the presence here at this time of the national grange.

Seventeenth—That the members and visitors of the Ohio state grange respectfully petition the legislature of Ohio to amend the Australian ballot law so as to require every voter to mark each candidate and proposition that he desires to vote for.

Eighteenth—The farmers of Ohio are to be congratulated upon the magnificent victory achieved in placing upon the tax duplicate of the state the monthly average on four hundred million of dollars of manufactured goods under the provisions of the Rawlings law, and that the last general assembly is to be commended for acceding to the prayers of the small property owners of the state, who are thereby relieved, to some extent, from unjust taxation.

Nineteenth—That the thanks of every patron are due, and are hereby tendered to Senator Rawlings for the brave fight he made for his bill.

THE fifteenth resolution of the foregoing platform favors the extension of postal facilities to the rural districts wherever practicable. The more rural mail delivery is considered, the more clearly can be seen the benefits that would be derived from it.

Some of the cogent reasons for it are found in the following, from the St. Louis Globe-Democrat:

It will not do to say that the agricultural element is wanting in intelligence, and so can get along with inferior conveniences of correspondence and of supplies of newspapers and periodicals. If that were true, it would be no reason for making a discrimination in favor of the people residing in towns. The postal service is for the whole country, and for all classes of citizens, and the benefits of the system should be apportioned in a manner as nearly uniform as possible, having regard always, of course, for the question of relative cost. One man has no more right in the case than another, and all should be

treated with equal consideration, regardless of places of residence.

It is easy to understand that the extension of the free delivery service to the farming districts would work a practical revolution in the conditions of country life. The monotony which now weighs so heavily upon those who live in these localities would be materially relieved, and new interests would be introduced to promote cheerfulness and happiness. As the matter now stands, the farmer is isolated from the rest of the world to an extent that tends to make him narrow and one-sided in his views and proceedings. He misses that healthy and broadening friction which pertains to town life. His occupation provides little or no chance for intellectual discipline and development on lines of current thought.

He is out of direct touch with the agencies and influences of progress, and must get all of his information in a slow and roundabout fashion. If he could have letters and papers delivered at his door once or twice a day it would make a great difference to him in this respect. He would be practically a dweller in town for most purposes. The busy, throbbing, advancing world would be brought much nearer to him, and his situation would be brightened and improved accordingly. There is much more to be said in favor of the scheme, and the demonstrated fact that it can be adopted without incurring any great expense, is a conclusive answer to the principal objection that has been urged against it.

DURING the second week of last month the Ohio State Farmers' Alliance held a convention at Columbus. The resolutions adopted indorse the St. Louis platform; ask that the silver dollar be restored as the unit of value as it was before the passage of the act of Congress of 1873; ask that the legislature compel railroad companies to reduce passenger rates to a maximum of two cents a mile; oppose speculation in food products and all trusts and combinations for the purpose of enhancing the price of necessities of life; denounce the fraudulent watering of stock in corporations; favor the improvement and preservation of waterways; and express belief in the principles of the taxation amendment submitted to the people at the last election.

In his annual address, the retiring president, referring to the fact that the Alliance was founded as a non-partisan organization, and that it was the duty of the officers to maintain it as such, said: "During our existence as a state organization we have witnessed the formation in Ohio of a political party, the platform of which contained nearly, if not entirely, all of the demands of our national Alliance. The formation of this new party presented to us a new danger, as a few honest but mistaken men brought much influence to bear to entangle the Alliance with the new party, alleging as a reason the similarity of the platforms of the two bodies."

All this is very good, but it should not be forgotten that some of these honest but mistaken men, officers and laymen of the Alliance, attended the Springfield convention of the People's party last August, as delegates, and took a very active part in the proceedings. The similarity of the two platforms is easily accounted for. However, as we have before pointed out, the farmer element was outgeneraled by other elements in the convention. The brief experience which the Ohio Alliance has had with the third party has taught it a valuable lesson. Hereafter it will stand by its principles and keep free from entanglement.

The following from the same address we heartily endorse: "The Alliance was founded as a non-partisan organization. It cannot lawfully control, nor should it seek to control, the votes of its members. It is based upon the educational idea. It furnishes opportunity to farmers and laborers to meet and discuss economic questions from a producer's standpoint, and then urges upon each member the duty and the necessity of working within the party of his own choosing for farming legislation and the repeal of harmful laws. It is a power for good in the field it has occupied. So long as it remains true to its pledges, occupies neutral ground, and is able to bring organized pressure to bear on legislative bodies, it will be in a position to assist in securing for the producers of this country more favoring conditions."

ALTHOUGH surpassing all other countries in the world in railway development, the United States is far behind many of the countries of Europe in the development and improvement of common roads. To them we must go for models of the best roads and streets, and from them we can learn much about their construction and maintenance.

Coming, as it does, at a time when more public interest is shown in this subject than ever before, "Streets and Highways in Foreign Countries," issued by the Department of State, is a timely and valuable contribution to road literature. This six-hundred-page publication is made up of special reports of consuls of the United States in their several districts, in answer to a circular from the department.

The book contains descriptions and illustrations of the construction of the best streets and roads of Europe, so clear and complete that it could be used as a working manual by a road commissioner. Besides the practical information on road construction and maintenance, it contains much about the road laws of different countries that would be very useful to our law-makers in their efforts to reform road legislation and make it more effective. Requests for the reports should be addressed to the Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

OHIO voters were so timid in their first experience with the Australian official ballot that they failed to vote either yes or no on the questions at the bottom of the ticket. The taxation amendment was lost by default. As the law requires amendments to the constitution to be submitted to the vote of the people only when members of the legislature are to be chosen, it will be two years before it can be resubmitted. In the meantime the voters will have an opportunity to become so familiar with the new form of ballot that they will not fail to vote upon questions of such importance as the taxation amendment. However, their failure to do so this year delays for an indefinite time a much needed reform of our tax laws.

THE twenty-fifth annual session of the National Grange was held in Springfield, Ohio, the middle of November. The attendance was good and the meeting was a success. A brief summary of the work done will be given later.

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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Our Farm.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FROM THE STATION BULLETINS.

BY JOSEPH (TUSCO GREINER.)

COTTON-SEED MEAL AND BRAN.

Few agricultural papers have failed in recent years to put in a good word for the use of cotton-seed meal as feed stuff. Its great value as a nitrogenous manure had long

been recognized, but it was thought advisable to try to make still more of it by first feeding it to stock, thus getting part of its value back in animal products, and the rest in increase of the value of the manure heap. Animals fed on cotton-seed meal, as is well known, give richer manure than animals fed on bran or corn-meal. The Pennsylvania State Experiment Station gives in bulletin 17 (October, 1891) a resume of experiments made for the purpose of finding out the true relations of cotton-seed meal and bran in regard to (1) cost of the food, (2) effect upon the health of the animals, (3) effect upon milk production, (4) effect upon production of butter fat, (5) effect upon quality of the butter. The results may be summarized as follows: (1) Cotton-seed meal, bran and corn-meal could be purchased at about the same price per ton. (2) The health of the milk cows used in these tests—twelve in number—was apparently not affected by feeding six pounds of cotton-seed meal daily per animal, the weight of the animals averaging about 900 pounds per head. The health of calves which were given one pound a day (stirred into two pounds of hot water and added to sixteen pounds of skim-milk) seems to have been affected seriously. (3) The yield of milk was increased about one fifth when cows were fed cotton-seed meal instead of bran, the cotton-seed meal constituting about three fifths the grain ration and about one fourth the total food eaten. (4) The per cent of fat in the milk was not materially changed; hence, the quantity produced was appreciably increased by feeding cotton-seed meal in place of bran. (5) The butter made from milk produced by cows fed a grain ration containing cotton-seed meal, was rated appreciably lower by New York commission merchants than butter made from a ration in which bran was used in place of the cotton-seed meal. There was a general agreement that feeding cotton-seed meal reduced the quality of the butter. The average melting point of the butter fat of the bran butter was 93 degrees, and that of the cotton-seed meal butter 99 degrees Fahrenheit.

What I infer from the outcome of these trials is that it is advisable to give a

medium ration of cotton-seed meal, but not a full feed. The addition of a little cotton-seed meal to other grains will probably not affect the quality of the butter very seriously, but will harden it slightly, at least for summer handling.

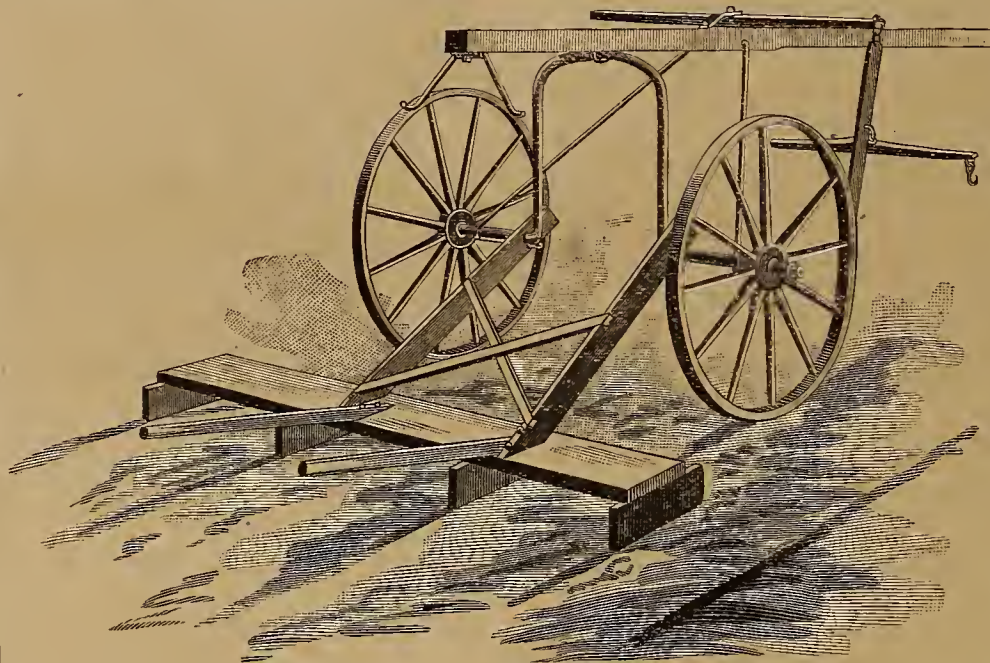
EXPERIMENTS IN GREENHOUSE HEATING.—Whether it be better to put the heating pipes in forcing-houses under the benches or over them, is a question for the solution of which very few systematic experiments have been made. The Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station has made tests comparing the steam and hot water systems of heating greenhouses. After two seasons of such careful tests with the same results each time, it was decided that, for houses of small or medium size at least, hot water gave the best results.

The two houses used being as nearly alike as it is possible to construct them, it was next determined to test the value of over-bench piping as compared with under-bench piping. Prof. Maynard, who reports the results in bulletin No. 15, thinks there was a loss of heat from its escape through the glass before it could affect the atmosphere about the thermometers, which hung about midway between the walk and the glass. The overhead piping also consumed slightly more coal. The general results with plants speak in favor of under-bench heating. Carnations furnished more blossoms with the pipes below than above them. The under-piped house had the best lettuce, the best seedling plants of lettuce, cabbage and tomatoes. In every case, also, the cuttings rooted more quickly and the seeds germinated more quickly and evenly in the under-piped house. The only favorable influence of overhead heating was shown

the strawberry on the college grounds is the black Paria (*Paria aterrima*), a minute, brown insect about one eighth of an inch long, which eats the foliage, giving it the appearance of having been riddled with gunshot. It appeared in the old beds early in May, most of the injury occurring in August. It works more on old beds, but where old and new beds are planted side by side and the old one is plowed under, the beetles migrate to the new one and feed upon the foliage. The remedies suggested are Paris green or hellebore. Experiments were made with the combined mixture of sulphate of copper and lime, known as the "Bordeaux mixture," and Paris green for the destruction of this insect and the leaf-rusts, but positive results were not obtained. The beetle is a leaf eater, and there is every reason to expect good results from applications of either Paris green or hellebore.

The strawberry-rust, which often does much injury, is caused by a fungous growth (*Ramularia fragariae*) that appears in round red or brown spots on the leaves. When these are numerous the leaf function is destroyed, and the plants are seriously weakened or die. All varieties are more or less subject to it when we have very warm and moist weather during the early summer while the fruit is ripening, when the berries dwindle down in size, or fail to mature. Good cultivation and high manuring will lessen the loss from this disease.

The station people advise the use of the Bordeaux mixture in combination with Paris green, the latter to destroy the black Paria. Prof. C. V. Riley, at the meeting of the Pomological Society in Washington, in September, told us that the combination mixture on fruit-trees had proved



ATTACHMENT FOR A CULTIVATOR.

in the quicker development of blossoms on nearly matured or budded plants.

SPECIAL FERTILIZERS FOR PLANTS UNDER GLASS.—Prof. Maynard has for several years been trying to solve the riddle, whether special applications, such as muriate of potash, nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, sulphate of potash, etc., can be made in the expectation of increasing bloom on plants under glass. The results are contradictory, and I fear will always remain so. Even under exactly the same treatment plants will greatly vary, some producing more and others fewer blossoms, and it is difficult to decide what is the effect of individuality or fertilizer application.

STRAWBERRY MATTERS.—The same bulletin (No. 15) of the Massachusetts Station also tells of extensive strawberry tests made on the station grounds. Beder Wood promises to be one of the best early berries, ripening with the very earliest. The fruit is of good size and color, productive and showy. It has a perfect flower, fine, healthy foliage, and can be used to fertilize any early kind. Haverland, which was not so well spoken of in last year's report, has redeemed itself, and proves a superior variety in every way except vigor of plant. It must be fertilized with some early variety like the Beder Wood or Michael's Early. For general purposes and the market, the test of the past few years leads the station people to name the following varieties, in the order of their merit: Beder Wood, Burbach's No. 5, Haverland, Belmont, Warfield, Enreka, Middlefield, Sharpless and Crescent.

The only insect specially injurious to

effective enough as an insecticide, but of little potency as fungicide. Thus, while I hope this may be a mistake on Prof. Riley's part, or on the part of the experimenter who made the observation, we should refrain from recommending the combination mixture very positively as a cure for the Paria and a preventive of fungous diseases. To be able to kill two birds with one stone may be an alluring idea, but we must first make sure of our chances to kill the two birds. Begin with the applications as soon as the foliage begins to grow in the spring, and repeat in two weeks; also at intervals from July 1st to August 1st.

HOW SHALL WE BREED THE SHEEP?

In this latitude the season has come again when this question is important and timely. The experience of the last five years shows marvelous developments in systems and flocks. Theories on what sheep pays the best, where to raise sheep for profit, and what is the purpose of raising sheep, have all been upset, and by many successful sheep-raisers abandoned, for the very good and satisfactory reason that they were proven to be unprofitable—"played out," in other words.

It is with some regrets, but not a misgiving, that the advice and words of caution of some standard writers should be here called in question and gainsaid, since the general verdict is that these good men belong to the venerated past and are opposing the very lines of sheep industry that have saved us in the past and turned defeat into victory; at least, made sheep-raising profitable when the prices of wool were below the cost of pro-

duction, which meant disaster and ruin if long continued.

Such warnings as "The breeding of early market lambs is an exceptional, extravagant and necessarily suicidal industry. Only one man in a thousand can afford to eat spring lamb." Again, from another comes the alarm, "Go slow. Just now there seems to be a wonderful craze for mutton sheep. We are liable to run into extremes in these matters, and then we must call a halt and take account of our stock, and for this reason we want to say to our fine-wool breeders, go slow. We have seen many cross their fine wools with mutton breeds to their sorrow. Our markets will not absorb so much mutton; we have not yet learned to eat it."

These writers are good, true men who have been in the front rank of Merino sheep-raising, and this is all right; but since their day of active work in caring for sheep, the changes have come and they seem not to have known of it. A word of caution may be needed to some, but it is too late to tell bright, sprightly young wool-growers in the agricultural states, with railroads at their doors, that "lamb-raising and mutton-growing are exceptional, extravagant and suicidal industries." It has saved us when ruin seemed the inevitable. "Not one man in a thousand can afford to eat spring lamb," and "we have not yet learned to eat it"—mutton—points the belated, back-number status of my good friends.

The half a million of spring lambs consumed in Chicago last year, the less proportion, perhaps, consumed in St. Louis, the great numbers consumed in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Buffalo, Pittsburg, and the enormous numbers consumed in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, tell a very different story as to the number of our people who eat spring lambs. A look into the stockyards of St. Louis, Chicago and the cities to which shipments are made, tell us that somebody has learned to eat mutton. The *Price Current* of these yards tells us that somebody is willing to pay enormous prices for their mutton; this, too, when beef is very much cheaper.

No, gentlemen, mutton is the key to the whole situation in the United States to-day, and since the cheaper conditions of the West favor the western wool-grower, the growing of wool on higher-priced lands of the older agricultural states will combine mutton and wool to make a success. The spring lamb-raising is a special and highly profitable business in Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, New Jersey or anywhere, if railroads help them to reach the New York or Boston markets within forty-eight hours.

There are still poultry-raisers who, for conscience sake, refuse to sell broilers at a month or six weeks old—half grown or less—when they will bring twice or three times as much as they can get for full-grown chickens at Christmas time.

It is money that the sheepmen are working for, and the readers of FARM AND FIRESIDE will make their own decisions and calculations and shape their business to catch the trade when in their own favor. They have been studying sheep from the commercial standpoint of the present, rather than from the antiquated past. The West, with its railroads, must be studied and competition wisely avoided. They can and do send to market vast numbers of grass mutton and feeders and lamb mothers. When they have no grass muttons to send, the agricultural-feeding states must supply the market with mutton. It is as true of spring lambs and the grain-feed "westerners." Each have their special chance.

The time may come when there shall be an oversupply of mutton in the market, and that wool-growing shall be more profitable than mutton-raising. It will be time enough to go slow when this seems probable. There need be no contention as to breeds. The types of breeds are changing, both on the farms and ranges. No one is ignoring wool-growing. There is no thought of turning the flocks into meat produce solely; both the products are sought for, and no one can tell just how far the mutton product may be increased without detriment to the fleece product. Some theories are offered, but no facts. The truth is, we need not worry about this while the experiments go on, provided we can make sheep-raising profitable. This must settle the course of all

sheep-ralsers, and when another change has to be made it will be easily seen what to do. The industry is undergoing adjustment to circumstances, and will go on until perfectly in harmony with the markets, agriculture and development of the western country now called ranges.

Sheepmen are better business men than they have ever been before. They have been studying their situation with greater thoughtfulness. No one need say to them, go slow. The future of the industry was never so hopeful and full of promise as now, provided the smaller details and markets are studied. R. M. BELL.

THE FARMER'S WORK-SHOP.

"Every man to his own trade," is a motto good enough in its place, but it has often occurred to us that if any man should be a "Jack of all trades," it is certainly the farmer. If living at any distance from town, as is generally the case, it is quite inconvenient, as well as a great loss of time, to be compelled to go to the mechanic for every little odd job, and then to pay extravagant prices for what frequently proves to be poor work. The best mechanics soon find profitable employment in the larger towns and cities, and only inferior workmen remain to make their living from the odd jobs afforded in every community.

It must not be understood that every farmer is advised to do all his own odd jobs of repairing, for many are so situated as to better afford to employ another, even at good pay. Others, again, appear to be altogether unable to understand the use of tools so as to enable them to accomplish even the smallest amount of mechanical execution. But for the farmer who possesses ordinary mechanical skill, it becomes almost a necessity to have near at hand a fair assortment of tools, and if possible a suitable building in which to keep the tools and perform the work. He can thus provide work for many days of inclement weather, which, if not for this provision, he would, in all probability, devote to idleness.

Where one or more hands are employed, these may be continued at profitable employment in repairing implements, grinding tools, oiling harness and making small conveniences for the house, barn and farm. These repairs would cost money if taken to the mechanic, and either the farmer or the men employed would lose the day's wages. As for the conveniences, they would either not be had or they, too, would cost an outlay of money or produce.

For six years we had a room only ten by twelve feet, the upper story of a milk-house which was erected the first year after moving upon the farm; but in this small room it was possible to place a work-bench and chest of tools, and yet leave room for work. Here were made screen-doors, bee-hives, water-tanks, kitchen tables, work-stands, etc., not only for our own use, but for the neighbors, also.

Last year, after completing a new dwelling of ten large rooms, in addition to stairway, closets, attics, etc., one room of the deserted dwelling, which is eighteen by twenty feet in size, was appropriated for a work-shop. In this room is found a full equipment of carpenter tools, including saws, planes, augers, bits, chisels, squares and try-squares, etc. An assortment of nails of threes, fours, fives, sixes, eights, tens, twelves and sixteens is kept in a box divided off into compartments and fixed to the wall just above the work-bench. An assortment of screws, tacks, bolts and rivets is constantly on hand in boxes on a shelf located above the nail-box. An assortment of lumber is stored on one side of the room, where it is always convenient for use and is well seasoned. On shelves in the rear end of the room are kept in buckets of water, paint-brushes of several sizes, and cans of paint ready for immediate application. A supply of good harness leather is kept in a chest with the most necessary tools for repairing harness.

The most valuable tools are kept locked up in a chest conveniently located; others are hung on nails, each in its place. The most valuable tools are all marked with the owner's full name, to guard against loss through borrowing neighbors or pilfering tramps. This may be considered an unnecessary precaution, but we have learned by experience that it is an excellent plan. Having had some expensive tools stolen, and many of my father's tools having been borrowed and never

returned, a lesson was learned and a remedy sought to be applied. A small portion of powdered sulphate of copper dissolved in water and used as ink in writing upon steel will make an indelible impression in a few moments' time.

Here are made many repairs and many conveniences, at small cost, on days which are unfit for outdoor work. As examples, a good wheelbarrow will cost about \$3. For sixty cents a sulky cultivator was purchased at a neighbor's sale. The wheels and axle were used in the construction of a small hand-cart that will haul five times as much as could be placed upon a wheelbarrow, and the wheels being larger, it can be moved with much greater ease. One of the beams of this same cultivator was made into a good double-shovel plow. Both of these conveniences were made at a cost of about one dollar in money and about three hours of labor. On page 2 is illustrated an attachment for a cultivator, by which means corn ground may be quite rapidly marked for planting where one is not so fortunate as to possess a check-row planter. It was made in about one hour, and can be adjusted to the cultivator, after removing the beams, in a moment's time. It is not well to use more than two runners if the ground be uneven, but ours has four, and does good work. JOHN L. SHAWVER.

MILKING FROM CALF TO CALF.

Shall we milk from calf to calf, or as near to that as we can, and get good milk, or shall we let the cow take a rest? A "German authority," as recently quoted in one of the farm papers, says give the cow a rest of from eight to ten weeks.

Say we give her on the average two months' rest, what do we gain? Our German friend says "the milk gets bad, the cream will not rise and the butter will not come." If that were true, there would be no use in milking the cow at that time; but I have not found it to be so in my experience. I want my cows to milk from calf to calf, and I find that the milk is good up to about two weeks of calving. When the milk becomes thick and sticky, the change has come, and the time to stop using the milk also. Now, the unborn calf may abstract part of the lime and phosphoric acid from the milk; but if it does, it has no perceptible effect on it, and so far as the butter-making qualities are concerned, it counts for nothing.

WHILE THE COW IS RESTING

We have to feed her, and the question is, whether the calf is enough better and the increase in milk after calving enough larger to pay for the loss of six weeks' milk. To be sure, the cow does not give much milk during the eight weeks immediately preceding calving; but it is very rich milk, and it takes fewer pounds of it to make a pound of butter than the milk immediately or even for some months after she calves. On the whole, I am in favor of milking the cow as long as the milk is good, and though I have made no tests to prove it, I believe that a cow that is kept at work the whole year, as near as may be, is the most profitable cow to keep.

THE EFFECT ON THE CALF.

Of one thing I am certain, and that is, that I can raise good cows from calves dropped by dams that have been milked all the year. The calf may not be fat when born, which is no objection at all in a dairy calf; but it will grow into a cow as large as its dam, often larger, and I have never seen the slightest ill effect follow the milking of a cow up to the calving period. My oldest Jersey cow, now almost twelve years old, has practically never been dry since she dropped her first calf when she was two years of age. Her daughters are all larger than she is, and her granddaughters and great-granddaughters bid fair to be all that one wants in size and constitution. So I don't see what I would have gained if I had only milked her ten months in the year; it

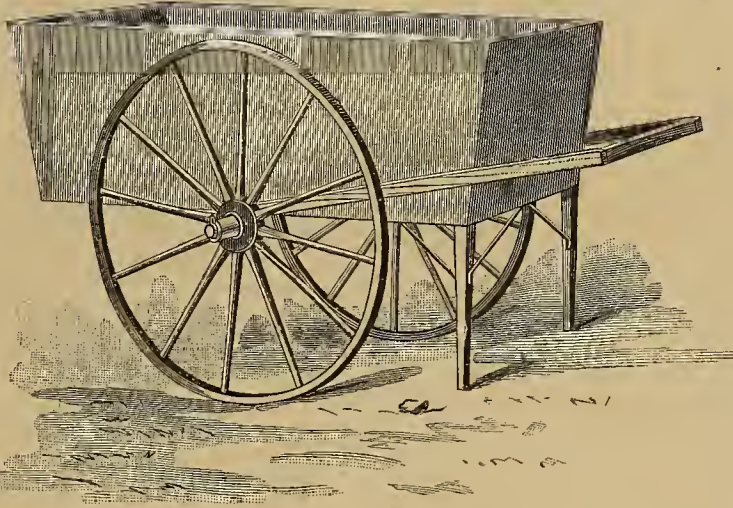
would have counted up over a year's lost time for the whole period of her milking—say three hundred pounds of butter less—and the gain, if there would have been any of additional yield of milk from having rested, would have been what? Something indefinite.

HIGH-PRICED FEED.

The high price of cow feed has been a serious drawback to the dairy interest. Those who had no soiling crops to feed during the late drouth and had to buy mill-feed, have not made much money, because dairy products have not been as high in proportion as feed. The lesson to be learned is, to grow all of our cow feed, or as near all as our circumstances will admit of. I know that the scientists tell us that our cow rations must be "balanced," and I also know very well that too much balancing of rations, by buying high-priced feed, will decidedly unbalance the profits of dairying. The long and short of scientific feeding is just this: If you have home-grown feed that is out of balance and bought feed will cost more than what you have, and the gain in feeding the bought feed will not make up the difference in prices, then feed what you have, and you will be feeding a "scientific" ration, for science means knowledge, and if you can make more money by feeding your home-grown ration than you can by buying stuff to balance it, then you are feeding scientifically, for you are feeding in the line of the best profit.

THE PROFIT IN THE MANURE.

Many of the tables of analyses of feeding stuffs give the value of a ton of feed after it passes through the animals. One before me now (in Joseph Harris' excellent book, "Talks on Manures"), puts the value of the manure from feeding a



HAND-CART.

ton of corn-meal at \$6.65, while that made from a ton of wheat bran is valued at \$14.59. I don't believe any farmer has ever found such difference in the manurial value of the two feeds. Furthermore, I don't believe there is any such difference to be found except in the chemist's laboratory. And I believe that a great part of the value of the manure comes from the wastes of the animal, more, in fact, than comes directly from the unassimilated part of the feed. Now, a poorly fed animal will make poor manure; that I believe to be true. Feed the same animal well, and its system throws off more effete matter, and it makes less difference as to the kind of feed than the quantity, provided that it be suitable and wholesome. So if I am right, the dairyman feeding corn-meal, corn-fodder and hay, an unbalanced ration may make more money than if he bought high-priced mill-feed, and his manure pile will have all the elements of fertility that make crops grow.

SOME EVIDENCE FROM THE HEN-HOUSE.

We read, and read and read that corn alone will not do to feed to laying hens. "It will make them too fat to lay. It has not the egg elements in it. It is too carbonaceous, and hens require albuminoids," and so on. As a matter of fact, I have fed hens on an exclusive corn diet, and they have paid well as egg producers. I don't mean just for a week or two, but for months at a time, and the hens were confined so that they couldn't get a mouthful of anything to eat except what I gave them, and they had no grass but what I fed them. I do not mean to say that they would not have done better if they had had a variety of grains, for I believe they would; but the experiment proved my satisfaction that corn will make good eggs in spite of its unadaptability to

according to the chemist's standard. And corn will make milk, rich milk, and the most profitable milk when other feeds (more scientific, perhaps) are too high to buy to "balance" the ration. The scientifically balanced ration for the cow, or any other animal, is the one that gives the most profit. A. L. CROSBY.

HOW TO PRESERVE IRISH POTATOES.

The difficulty of keeping Irish potatoes in edible condition after March 1st is well known to southern housekeepers, farmers and merchants. Prof. Schribaux, of the national college of agriculture of France, has recently devised a very simple, cheap and successful method by which he has been able to preserve potatoes in edible condition for over a year and a half. This process has been adopted by the French government for preserving potatoes for the army. The French minister of agriculture publishes the details of the process of the official *Bulletin du Ministère de l'Agriculture* for March, 1891. The following is a translation of the essential part of the scheme:

1. The method of preserving consists in plunging the tubers, before storing them away, for ten hours into a two-per-cent. solution of commercial sulphuric acid in water; two parts of acid to one hundred parts of water.

2. The acid penetrates the eyes to the depth of about one fortieth inch (two millimeters), which serves to destroy their sprouting power; it does not have any appreciable effect upon the skin of the potatoes.

3. After remaining in the liquid ten hours, the tubers must be thoroughly dried before storing away.

4. The same liquid may be used any number of times with equally good results.

5. A barrel or tank of any kind will do for the treatment. The acid is so dilute it does not affect the wood.

6. Chemical analysis shows that potatoes treated by this process are as nutritious and healthful after eighteen months as when freshly dug.

7. Potatoes thus treated are, of course, worthless for planting.—Gerald McCarthy, N. C. Experiment Station, Raleigh.

ROOFED BARN-YARDS.

It is in my opinion a successful way of making manure to make it in a covered yard; good manure can be made without question by heaping in open space and forking over occasionally, but with less care a better product is likely to be the average result when made under cover, whether enough better to pay the cost of the shelter is perhaps an open question; if the shelter were only for the manure, the balance might be struck against it; and if no coarse stuff goes into the manure pile (it is singular advice of one writer that it should not) the balance would certainly be against it.

But the cattle may enjoy this shelter and profit by it, since it gives to them a larger freedom to move about without exposure to storms or cold; and with the aid of their tramping a very considerable addition may be made to the value of the manure of the yard by working into the excrements the straw or other coarse stuff which, under conditions that may often prevail, cannot be profitably fed; there must, of course, be so much of such material that the animals will not be injured by too much wetness under foot. This coarse stuff put directly on the land is worth very little for fertilizing; when more or less decomposed in a well-aired mixture with animal excrements, it is worth much more.—New York Tribune.

Two Things

In Regard to Catarrh

1st, It is a Constitutional Disease; and 2nd, It Requires a Constitutional Remedy.

These two facts are now so well known to the medical fraternity that local applications, like snuffs and inhalants, are regarded as at best likely to give only temporary relief. To effect a permanent cure of catarrh requires a constitutional remedy like Hood's Sarsaparilla, which by purifying the blood, repairing the diseased tissues, and imparting healthy tone to the affected organs, does give thorough and lasting cure.

"I want to say for the benefit of suffering humanity, that Hood's Sarsaparilla is

A Permanent Cure for Catarrh.

After suffering with catarrh in my head for a number of years, and using every obtainable remedy, I was requested to take

Hood's Sarsaparilla

I did so, and after using three or four bottles I am led of the most annoying disease the human system is heir to." P. B. Scott, Sheridan, Ind.

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM MY HOME GARDEN.

BY JOSEPH.

FLATS FOR HOTBED USE.—To store a good lot of nice loam in some place where it will not freeze, and where we are sure we will find it ready for use in hotbeds and cold-frames next spring, no matter how backward the season may be, is good work for fall; but it is not sufficient. To be fully prepared for raising early plants, we need the shallow boxes called "flats," and we can get them in almost unlimited quantities and of just the right size for convenient manipulation if we look out for them in season. If we neglect this and wait until we want them, we may find ourselves minus; or compelled to get the materials, perhaps at considerable expense, and to work with saw and hammer for quite a while. I save all this trouble and expense by having the grocers with whom I deal save me all the boxes in which they receive canned goods. These boxes are about four inches deep, and just large enough to afford room for fifteen or eighteen tomato-plants, or as many egg-plants, or two or three times that number of pepper-plants.

These flats are especially serviceable for starting plants from seed. I usually sow seed in about eight rows, crosswise in each box, and when the plants are ready for pricking out, I take them, box and all, out of the hotbed and transplant to other flats, to be kept in cold-frames, giving each plant at least three inches space each way. Thus, I can raise fine plants, and I have them in the best shape for taking to the field, cutting them out in squares and setting in open ground.

I also use these flats to take tomato and other plants grown in frames, under glass, without flats, to the field to set out. The plants are cut out with the spade in nice squares, then nicely packed into the flats, and transported to the field or garden. In short, these boxes come handy in various ways, and I would get them, even if I had to pay a few pennies apiece for them. They are worth it, and a great convenience, if not an absolute necessity, for the gardener.

FALL PLOWING.—Do I believe in fall plowing in the garden? Certainly I do, but more for the sake of "slicking up" and destroying weed seeds and insects than because I expect to improve the texture or fertility of good, loose garden loam by exposure to alternate freezing and thawing. On the other hand, we can get a piece of land in good shape for early planting by fall plowing. We should plow it the long way, with deep, dead furrows between narrow beds, thus affording a good chance for drainage. Manure can then be put on at any convenient time during the winter, although if we desire to plant as early as possible, it would be better to leave the land without manure until the ground has thawed out again in spring and is ready for replotting, or for stirring with the disk-harrow. A covering of manure would of course retard the thawing of the ground. Be sure to pick out and save the nicest, finest old manure for garden purposes.

Before you plow, however, be sure to gather up all the rubbish—old tomato-stalks, bean and other vines, weeds, brush and whatever may have accumulated on the ground—and take it off to one side, or rake it in heaps and burn it. If left on the spot, it will be a terrible nuisance, always interfering with the easy management of the various garden tools, the seed-drill, the wheel-hoes, etc. But one thing is sure, that slicking up in this manner and plowing the garden in the fall greatly helps the appearance of the premises.

DRY LEAVES.—I also like to get a good supply of dry leaves, so I let my small boys amuse themselves by raking the leaves together in heaps wherever they have accumulated on the premises; then pack them into a hand-wagon, or stuff them into old sacks, and finally take them to the barn or poultry-house, to be stored there until spring. Just before time for making hotbeds, I use these leaves as bedding in the horse stable, and then mix them with fresh horse manure for hotbed material. It is a first-rate article for this purpose.

THE CALIFORNIA WINTER RADISH.—About ten years ago, I should think, the California winter radish was introduced. This was a rapid-growing, large variety, of excellent quality, mild and tender. I have planted California winter radish every year ever since, but the variety has either terribly degenerated, or our seedsmen have lost the true variety. In short, the radish I have grown for several seasons, now under this name, is an entirely different thing, and not one quarter as good. I would like to have another chance at the true variety—it was just to my taste.

PLANS FOR NEXT SEASON.—In a general way, I have already made my plans for next year's campaign. Onions will once more be one of the chief crops. I have already sowed quite a little patch of seed, comprising following varieties: Prizetaker, White Pearl, Yellow Danvers and Yellow Dutch.

Perhaps we can manage to start the seed in the fall, and winter the young plants in open ground; then transplant in spring. The Yellow Danvers and Dutch varieties are planted merely to test their hardiness.

On the whole, I think I shall plant more largely of white onions hereafter than of yellow ones. White Pearl and White Victoria will be the varieties selected. I think they can be grown almost as easily as the Prizetaker, and perhaps fully so, and the white sorts have for years sold at almost double the price of yellow and red ones, and often at more than double the price. Why are they not planted more largely? I think it is just as easy to grow a bushel of White Globe as a bushel of Yellow Danvers, and with the higher price for the former, they must be much more profitable. For the new method of onion growing, however, I prefer the Victoria and Pearl. About the Prizetaker in market, I shall have something to tell later on.

One thing I found out to my advantage this summer is that there is a good demand for really nice pickling onions. Have them well graded and you can get almost your own price for them. But to grow them profitably, you want sandy soil that will not stick to the bulbs, so that the latter come out clean and nice, and can be cleaned in a cheap way by sifting. My favorite is yet the Barletta, or Adriatic Barletta, although the older New Queen and the newer White Pearl do first-rate for this purpose, only being two or three weeks later than the Barletta. The Early Round Pickling is also good, maturing with the New Queen. The Barletta, of course, can be put upon the market ahead of any other, and it is sure to bring you some early cash.

GROWING CELERY FOR LATE KEEPING.

BY E. J. BROWNELL.

In all the articles on celery culture I have observed, I do not remember to have noticed any instructions for its growth that corresponded to my method of treatment, which for many years has enabled me to keep celery in good condition for table use much later in spring than is commonly done, even until the end of May. Friends who have chanced to visit me at this late season have always remarked on the freshness and crispness of our celery, so unusual at that time.

For thus keeping, the celery should be transplanted into the trenches very late, and, according to my experience, not earlier than August 1st for best results; and if the ground is made very rich, even as late as from the 10th to the 20th of the month will do. I prefer plants for this purpose that are not too early sown, and accordingly grow them from seed sown in the open ground during April. Early plants will answer if, when set out, nearly the whole of the top is removed, so that all the growth of the plants, when stored for the winter, is that obtained during the fall. Make the land very rich, and force the growth from this time through, all that is possible, as the object is not so much to have the plants lacking in size when freezing weather arrives as to have all the growth there is in them made during the autumn months.

I do not grow celery in deep trenches as was formerly practiced, nor yet entirely on the surface, as is recommended by some, but prefer a medium between the two. I throw out a trench, usually on land where early peas or early potatoes have been grown, some ten or twelve inches in depth, in the bottom of which I

place four to six inches of well-rotted stable manure; cover this lightly with earth, and on this set the celery, leaving it thus a few inches below the level of the surface. Little banking is required. I gradually fill up the trench, as it proceeds in growth, and finally earth up around it a few inches only above the surface of the ground.

When I remove it to my house cellar, which is rather moist, that being the only frost-proof place I have for storing it in, I lift the plants with a spading-fork, with all the earth that will adhere to the roots, and pack them closely together in the dampest corner of our cellar, which, in order to render it frost-proof, has to be banked up in winter so as to be entirely dark. Here it keeps in the best possible condition and is always ready for use during winter and in spring.

As is probably understood by most of your readers, there is considerable difference in the keeping qualities of different varieties of celery. The White Plume, which is an excellent sort for fall and early winter use, would not answer at all for keeping in this manner, owing to its poor keeping qualities. The sort which gives me the best satisfaction of any I have ever tried for a late keeper, and one which I esteem highly, also, for any season, is Sandringham Dwarf White. But any good keeping variety may be satisfactorily grown as I have recommended, and with reasonable certainty of success in keeping until quite late in spring.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

SULPHURING DRIED FRUITS.

In a recent bulletin on this subject, Prof. Hilgard, of the California Experiment Station, writes:

"In prunes which had been sulphured after drying, the effect was striking. Here the increase was to over six times the natural contents. The total amount added by sulphuring amounted to nearly a third of one per cent, and the free sulphuric acid in the dried fruit amounts to 22 per cent, which is about 25 grains of commercial oil of vitriol per pound.

"In addition to rendering the fruit unpalatably acid, it had been rendered obnoxious both to the digestive organs and to the teeth. No one could habitually consume such fruit without feeling the effects of such an amount of mineral acid, introduced into his food purely for the gratification of the eye, with an unnatural tint.

"But so long as the public and its agents, the dealers, continue willing to pay from 30 to 50 per cent more for the whitened sepulchres offered them in the shape of sulphured fruit than for that which retains, with its natural tint of dried fruit, and with it the marks of careful or careless treatment, so long will the producer continue to supply the demand for the doctored article; unless, indeed, the law should intervene, as has been done in most European countries. There the sale of sulphured fruit is simply forbidden as injurious to public health, and as coming under suspicion of having been doctored up from an inferior article with fraudulent intent.

"I think the time has come to make a step forward and try to put upon the market a first-class article of 'unsulphured dried fruit,' with the express statement and claim that it is unsulphured and retains the natural sweetness and flavor of California fruit, instead of being reduced to a common level with the worst products of any other country. For it is certain that the whitish-green dried apples and pears now sold at high prices in our grocery stores might just as well have been grown anywhere from Norway to the Mediterranean, for aught they teach of the quality of our fruits.

"The following suggestions are offered to those who are willing to practice sulphuring to a moderate degree only, and with some regard to the conservation to the fruits' palatableness:

"Large quantities of sulphur introduced at once into the drier or sulphuring-box will tend to cause a deposit of sulphur, in substance, on the outside of

the fruit, adding its flavor to that of the acid, which alone is useful. The less sulphur is put in at one time, and the more air admitted, the less there will be of the visible fumes that carry the sulphur up into the fruit. It is best to let the sulphur catch fire all over before putting it into the box at all.

"Let whatever sulphuring you must do be done before drying, as in that case not only will the drying process itself drive off a great deal of the superfluous acid and prevent it from penetrating the whole, but the flavor of the interior will penetrate outward and measurably do away with the laboratory odor that will otherwise pervade the fruit package.

"A very slightly and appetizing cinnamon-brown tint for sliced apples and pears may be secured by dipping for a few minutes the freshly-made slices, contained in a properly-shaped basket (of galvanized wire if desired), into a solution of salt containing not less than two ounces in five gallons of water. This prevents any spotting where the fruit has been touched. Instead of the salt, a similar solution of the bisulphites of soda or lime may be used, which effect a slight external bleaching without injury to the flavor of the fruit.

"Last, but not least, let us try to gradually educate the public taste up to the point of preferring in this matter the substance to the shadow, and accepting healthy, brown, high-flavored dried fruit to the sickly-tinted, chemical-tainted product of the sulphur-box."

RASPBERRY CULTURE.

A. M. Priddy, in his "Fruit Grower's Guide," says: There is everything in starting right in growing this fruit successfully and profitably. Too many persons allow the young, newly-set plants to grow helter-skelter, when what is most needed is checking the new growth in season. Plants set in the spring should have their new shoots nipped off at tip-ends, when not exceeding one foot in height, and as the side branches grow, nip these off at tip-ends when one foot to fifteen inches long. If a year old, allow them to get two feet in height and length when nipped off, and if set closely together in rows, the rows form a perfect hedge; when thus trimmed the rows can be set so much nearer together. Then throw under the bushes a good, heavy mulch and keep the cultivator going between them, and our word for it, you will not lack for full crops of fruit for many years. To those who have old plantations of blackberries and raspberries, see to it in July or August that the new growth does not shoot up too tall and spindling, but nip off at tip-ends when not more than three feet high. We have become satisfied that whether red raspberries are grown by the hill or row system, too many stalks must not be allowed to grow. Too many stalks or suckers will make any red sort almost worthless. Red raspberries should be grown so as to be worked both ways—allowing three to five stalks in the hill, according to size and stockiness. We find when grown in hedge-rows the berries are not so large and fine as those grown in hills, and are not so easily picked. Of course, they can be planted quite close together—say, for instance, four and one half to five feet each way—and if nipped back when growing they require no stakes. Grown thus in hills, and each year a small forkful of manure thrown against each hill, a plantation will last from fifteen to twenty years, if the old wood is cut out every year.

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Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammon, New Jersey.

WATERING THE HENS IN WINTER.

UNLESS the hens can have plenty of it, they cannot produce eggs. In the winter season, when the drinking vessels become frozen up with ice and are liable to crack from cold, the matter of providing water becomes a difficulty. We all know that a cold draught of water in winter chills the body, as it must be warmed by the body after it is drank; consequently, ice-water causes a loss of bodily heat. As the heat is produced from the food, all losses of heat are losses of food. Now, it is just as easy to water the hens at regular hours as it is to water the large stock, and the best mode of so doing is to use wooden troughs long enough to allow all the hens to drink at the same time. Early in the morning, at noon and before night fill the troughs with warm water, allow the hens to drink until all are satisfied, and then throw out the water that remains. In this manner the troughs will be kept clean, the hens will learn to drink at regular periods, and the warm water will invigorate them. In fact, nothing is so invigorating, or will assist in warding off the cold when the hens come off the roost in the morning, with the thermometer below zero, than a drink of warm water.

NEST TO PREVENT EGG-EATING.

A hen cannot eat the eggs in her nest unless she has advantages for so doing. The illustration is no novelty, but it shows how to prepare a nest to prevent egg-eating by the hen. A hen can only indulge her propensity when she stands by the eggs; hence, open nests, close to the floor, permit her to do her work of damage. An ordinary soap-box will answer as a nest-box, the top, sides, ends and bottom not being removed. An opening in front, only sufficient for the hen to go in, should be made, and the nest-box should be raised to the height of ten inches from the floor to the bottom of the nest-box. A ledge (A) may be placed in front of the opening, to permit the hen to enter the nest, but it should not be over two inches wide. Legs, blocks or bricks may be used to keep the nest-box off the floor. The box should be in a rather dark place. When the hen has laid, she will not attempt to eat the eggs in the box, but will come off to the ground to do so, where she will be foiled, as she cannot then reach the eggs.

GROUND BONES FOR POULTRY.

Ground bones and cut bones are different. A fresh, green bone cannot well be ground. It may be crushed or pounded, but not easily ground. Hand-mills are in use that permit of grinding bones that have become hard and dry, or have been steamed or heated, but the green bones must be pounded or cut in fine pieces with knives. There is a great difference in the value of fresh bones from the butcher and those that have been exposed until they are dry. Green bones contain quite a proportion of meat and cartilage, and are greedily eaten by all classes of fowls.

POULTRY-HOUSE VENTILATION.

It is a very difficult matter to ventilate a poultry-house without causing draughts of air on the fowls at night. The proper mode is to keep the poultry-house clean, leave the doors open during the day, and shut the house at night, allowing no ventilation at all. We have found that it is very difficult to keep the fresh air from coming in, and it is a fact that many who take pains to render the poultry-house warm and comfortable, by stopping all cracks and crevices, and by lining the house with paper, make a hole in the roof or gable ends which they style a "ventilator," and thus let in more cold than they desire. There is not as much foul air in a poultry-house as may be supposed. The severe cold renders all gases heavy, and less volatile matter exists. Fill a poultry-

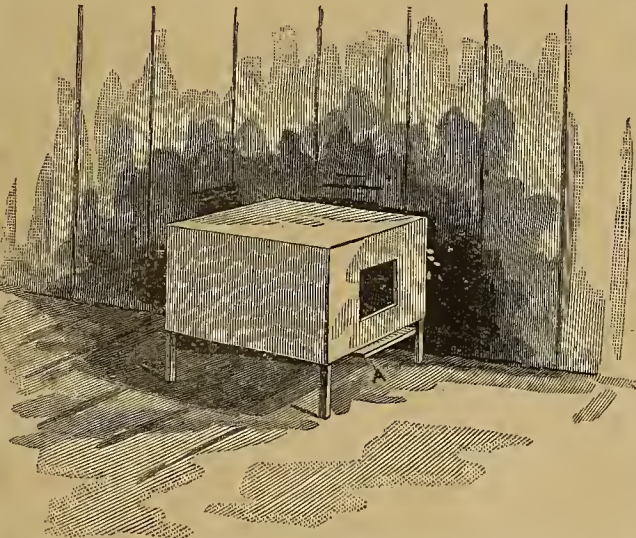
house with smoke, and close the door; then step outside and notice where it escapes. You will at once be convinced that you need no "ventilator," and that despite all your precautions, your house is full of air-holes that you cannot easily close, and that your birds are liable to roup and other diseases, due to cold draughts of air over them at night.

CHICKS AND SNOW.

When the snow is here and the weather severe, it is only with the best of care that a hen can raise a brood of chicks. Much depends upon the hen, though her capacity is often overestimated. The hen should have not more than ten eggs in winter, and a quiet hen will be more successful than one that is active. The greatest danger comes from some precocious chick that is never at rest, it causing the hen to be continually following it at times, thus preventing her from hovering the weaker ones. It is better, however, to keep the hen confined in a coop, even if she and the chicks have a dry shelter, for there will be less liability of loss from chilling of the chicks. As the chicks increase in size they will not be able to find places under the hen, if she has many of them. It is quite creditable to a hen in winter if she can raise six chicks, and she will probably be more successful with five. Night is the time when the chicks need the most warmth, and it is then that the hen should be securely placed where the cold winds cannot reach her and her brood.

ROUP—UNACCOUNTABLE LOSSES.

When the hens die, being afflicted with hoarseness, discharge from the nostrils, sore throat, swelled heads, inflamed eyes or other difficulties incidental to "colds," it indicates that the hens have been exposed to draughts or winds, causing roup. We receive quite a number of letters in regard to these difficulties. The best



remedy is one part spirits turpentine, one part kerosene and three parts sweet-oil, in a sewing-machine oil-can, forcing ten drops of the mixture down the throat twice a day, and also anointing the head and face. Scatter air-slacked lime freely over every part of the poultry-house, and also over the yards.

ENSILAGE IN BARRELS.

An inquiry has been made in regard to keeping ensilage in barrels, for the use of poultry. It is too late now to put up ensilage, but if the barrel is strong and will resist the required pressure, there is nothing to prevent the storage of cut corn, green clover, grass, cabbage or any other material; but the pressure must be sufficient to entirely exclude the air, as fermentation, should it result, will destroy the contents of the barrel.

ROOSTS—LAMENESS.

It is as well to have the roost only six inches above the platform as to have it higher. Many fowls become lame from the constant strain upon them in daily getting on and off the roosts, which lameness does not only cause the bird to droop, but renders it unprofitable. Bumblefoot is also caused by high roosts, and stiffness of the joints, which is ascribed to rheumatism, arises from the same source. Low roosts are better, and can be made at less cost.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHICKS SHOULD HAVE EXERCISE.—I am an amateur at the business of poultry raising. Last season I kept my fowls confined in a very small space, the consequence being that none of the eggs hatched; so I have learned that chicks need exercise and plenty of it. I am in a small railroad town, and have no more room than one should have. I propose to fence in a

lot 60 by 64 feet, which is all I can spare for that purpose.

J. A. L.
Pocatello, Idaho.

VALUE OF INSTRUCTION.—I had real good luck this year by following your suggestions as closely as I could. I had twenty hens and two roosters, and raised 108 chickens which are fully developed. I never raised as many before, but often had as high as seventy or eighty. But careful study, under your instructions, will relieve any weary poultry raiser.

H. V. B. D.

Flat Lands, N. Y.

WHITE HOLLAND TURKEYS.—I have been a reader of your paper for some time. I will endeavor to give a brief description of White Holland turkeys and their superiority as set forth by their advocates. Their name implies the country of their origin. They have a beautiful, snow-white plumage, which makes them greatly admired by all who see them. They are not so large as the Bronze, but larger than some breeds. What they lack in size they make up in hardness and quality. They are the hardest turkey known, unless it be the genuine wild turkey, and they will equal them. They fill a happy medium in the turkey line. The White Holland turkey should not be confounded with the small, white turkey so often seen on the farms, as they are a distinct variety. The White Hollands are the most domestic of any in their habits, and are quiet in disposition, do not wander so far from home and thus fall victims to skunks and hawks, like the Bronze. While they do not grow to the size of the Bronze, they are always in good demand in the markets, as they attain a medium size and plumpness, and are well adapted to families. A medium-sized fowl of this kind sells better, for there are a dozen housekeepers that prefer a medium-sized fowl to one that looks for the large, overgrown, coarse specimens. The females of the White Holland are the most prolific of any breed, often laying in the fall, a thing which is not usual to any other breed. The quality of their flesh is sweet and tender, and far surpasses the flesh of any other turkey. They have been justly styled the king of the table fowls and the champions of the poultry-yards, and their feathers are more valuable for artistic and commercial purposes than any other variety. They present a handsome appearance on a lawn and are admirably suited to nice suburban homes. To sum up all our claims of superiority: First, hardness—the hardest turkey known; second, the most docile in disposition; third, the females are the most prolific; fourth, quality of flesh surpassing all other breeds; fifth, early maturity, maturing the first season, while the Bronze requires two years or more.

J. S.
Harmony, Pa.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Canary Feather Plucking.—Mrs. G. L. M., Drytown, Cal., writes: "What can I do for a canary that picks the new feathers as fast as they appear? She had lice, but I am sure she has none now."

REPLY:—Dust the bird well with insect-powder, and feed a small quantity of lean, cooked beef and ground bone daily.

Sorghum Seed.—W. B. L., Gratiot, Ohio, asks: "Is sorghum seed suitable food for poultry?"

REPLY:—It is excellent.

Lice on Canaries.—Mrs. A. S., Manitou, Can., writes: "I have five cages of canaries, but they all have lice. What shall I do for them?"

REPLY:—Clean the cages thoroughly and dust the birds with fresh insect-powder.

Lice in Poultry-house.—M. P., Tusten, N. Y., writes: "How shall I get rid of lice in an old poultry-house, and off the hens, before transferring the hens to a new house?"

REPLY:—Thoroughly saturate the old house two or three times with kerosene or the kerosene emulsion, and provide the hens with a clean dust-bath, adding an ounce of insect-powder to each peck of fine, sifted, dry dirt.

DAIRYMAN'S ACCOUNT BOOK.

Farmers and dairymen are beginning to appreciate the value of keeping accounts. This is very much simplified by using the Dairyman's Account Book, a copy of which will be mailed free to any buttermaker by Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt.

It has ruled spaces for the daily yield of the cows, amount of butter made, sales, etc. A breeder's table and "golden rules for gilt-edged butter making" are other valuable features.

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EXTRACTS
FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM OREGON.—Washington county is one of the best counties in the state. One part is good farming country, while along the rivers you will find heavy timber. There is very little vacant land in this county. There are large tracts of heavy timber owned by monopolies, which would be quickly settled up if placed on the market. Washington county is a great fruit-growing country. Nearly every kind of fruit does well—from the strawberry to the apple. Peaches do well when properly cared for. I have seen peaches on trees eighteen months from the time the seed was planted.

R. W.

Schall's Ferry, Oregon.

FROM OREGON.—Curry county is in the south-western part of the state and is a fine fruit-growing, farming and stock-raising country. It cannot be excelled in climate, for we have the four regular seasons—spring, summer, autumn and winter. We don't dry up here in summer and then freeze in winter, like they do east and north of us. The thermometer never was known to go below zero in winter nor above 110° in summer. We have plenty of good water and thousands of acres of timber unlocated. There is no danger of freezing in winter or of being blown off by cyclones or blizzards. There is room for hundreds of families and settlers. Land is cheap. Chetco is in the south-western part of the county and will be one of the largest cities on the Pacific coast in the near future. First, we have the deep water for foreign ships and the best harbor on the coast of Oregon; second, we have the nearest route through the mountains to the interior, tapping a big fruit-raising and wheat-growing country; third, there are many undeveloped mines of copper, iron, gold, silver, coal, borax, chrome and asbestos; fourth, there is the finest kind of fir timber, oak, myrtle and redwood. Salmon-fishing is carried on on a large scale on the coast. There are fine hunting and fishing out on the ocean for sea-otter and fur-seal, good codfish banks and halibut-fishing.

S. V. P.

Chetco, Oregon.

FROM FLORIDA.—Walton county is the home of the peach, Le Conte pear, Keiffer pear and all other of what you might call southern fruits. I never saw such beautiful, luscious grapes as grow around here. The country is comparatively new, being only six to eight years old. Last winter more than 80,000 peach-trees were planted in this vicinity, and there will be still more this winter. Corn, oats, sweet potatoes, rice, sugar-cane, Irish potatoes and all kinds of garden truck can be grown here very successfully. We have the very best of water and in unlimited quantity. The climate is simply perfection. It never gets too hot in summer or too cold in winter. We can work outdoors comfortably all the time. Land six miles from town sells for from \$10 to \$25 an acre. There are a few homesteads still open beyond the six-mile limit from town, but they are being taken up very fast. People are coming in fast and the country is being filled up rapidly. The Chautauqua Assembly meets here for six weeks, generally beginning about the middle of February and continuing on through March. There are plenty of hotels and boarding-houses to give accommodation to the thousands who come here annually. The town is built right around the lake or spring, which is as round as a dollar, and exactly one mile, to a foot, around, and it is as pretty as a picture. I came here from Indiana, and from the very best part of the state at that, but nothing whatever, that I know of, could induce me to go back to Indiana again to live, and plenty more here say the same thing.

C. K. M.

De Funiak Springs, Fla.

FROM KANSAS.—Riley county is fifty miles south of the Nebraska line and about one hundred and twenty miles from the Missouri river. Having lived in Riley county for twenty-five years, we think we know something of its history. The Blue river on the east side of the county and the Kansas river on the south side make those portions of the county very broken, the farm lands lying mostly in river and creek bottoms. The uplands are used mostly for grazing. The central and western portions of the county are gently rolling prairie, with a rich soil almost equal to the bottoms. Some of the finest farms in the county are situated on these prairies, with nice bearing orchards and beautiful groves of timber. This upland produces good corn, but is more especially adapted to small grain. On the prairie, about the center of the county, is situated the beautiful little town of Riley, destined some day to be the county-seat. It is on the Rock Island railroad and has the advantage of both eastern and western markets. Six miles north of Riley, and situated on the Kansas Central railroad, is the town of Leonardville. It has a bright future before it, being in the midst of a rich agricultural district. Randolph is also a thriving town, situated in the northern part of the county on the Blue Valley railroad. It is surrounded mostly by Germans and Swedes, who are well-to-do. Last, but not least, is the city of Manhattan, the county-seat of Riley county. Here is located the State Agricultural College with its 500 students. Besides this are

two fine city school-buildings, half a dozen fine churches, water-works and an electric light plant.

W. L. M.

Stockdale, Kan.

FROM NORTH DAKOTA.—Our country threshed one of the finest crops ever harvested anywhere. Our elevators and warehouses are full, every car that can be had is filled. All granaries are full and every sack is full, and still threshing goes on. As a result of this general fullness, our farmers have their pockets full of money, after paying off debts, and the banks are full of money. Our wheat yielded from 15 to 45 bushels to the acre. Rye, barley and oats were also very big crops. To the farmer, who for the last three years could not realize enough to keep up his taxes and interest, to say nothing of paying debts, this year's crop is a wonderful release. Without money or credit, many of them had very hard work to live and clothe their families. Only a few months ago they did not know where to turn for relief, but relief came in an abundant harvest. Many reports come in, which, by the way, are true, that would not be credited by us if we did not know the parties to be thoroughly reliable. I will cite a few. D. L. H., of Verona, N. D., last spring bought a farm of 350 acres, with horses and machinery enough to run the farm, for 8,000 bushels of wheat. He was to pay each year one half of the crop until he had paid for the farm and stock. A few weeks ago he threshed 14,000 bushels of No. 1 hard wheat. In five months he paid for an entire farm with stock and machinery. C. F., one year ago, was not able to pay any of his debts, amounting to \$500 or \$600. He told his creditors he was discouraged, but was induced to try once more. With the help of his wife only, and one man ten days during harvest, he put in a crop and harvested 3,100 bushels of No. 1 hard wheat, which, after paying all his debts, left him with \$1,500 to put on interest. These are but a few instances of the result of the crop in Dakota this year. Three fourths of our farmers will rid themselves entirely of debt by this crop, and, having learned discretion in the hard times of the past, they will keep out of debt in the future. The great bane to our farmers has been the debts they contracted when they first came here. Our crops of the past were not entire failures. If the farmer had had no debts, each year he could have made a good living, but because he was obliged to pay those enormous rates of interest, he was unable to live comfortably. But now being free from debt, and having learned to economize, the future has no dread for the Dakota farmer. Already there is a great demand for land in all directions and prices are advancing. Why should it not? Our soil is the very richest in the world and yields enormously. It is true, we have had a scarcity of rains at the proper season to insure us a full crop of wheat each year, but in a country where pasture and hay is so abundant, the wheat crop is not our only source of revenue. Each farmer has gradually surrounded himself with cattle, horses and sheep, so in the future if grain fails us, we have our beef and wool to bring us money. Who would not live in North Dakota?

La Moure, N. D.

J. O. B.

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DONALD KENNEDY Of Roxbury, Mass., Says:

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VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA, Sept. 9th, 1891.

Donald Kennedy—Dear Sir: I will state my case to you: About nine years ago I was paralyzed in my left side, and the best doctors gave me no relief for two years, and I was advised to try your **Discovery**, which did its duty, and in a few months I was restored to health. About four years ago I became blind in my left eye by a spotted cataract. Last March I was taken with La Grippe, and was confined to my bed for three months. At the end of that time, as in the start, then it struck me that your **Discovery** was the thing for me; so I got a bottle, and before it was half gone I was able to go to my work in the mines. Now in regard to my eyes, as I lost my left eye, and about six months ago my right eye became affected with black spots over the sight as did the left eye—perhaps some twenty of them—but since I have been using your **Discovery** they all left my right eye but one; and, thank God, the bright light of heaven is once more making its appearance in my left eye. I am wonderfully astonished at it, and thank God and your **Medical Discovery**.

Yours truly, HANK WHITE.

MY WIFE SAYS SHE CANNOT SEE HOW YOU DO IT FOR THE MONEY. \$12 Buys a \$65.00 Improved Oxford Singer Sewing Machine; perfect working, reliable, finely finished, adapted to light or heavy work, with a complete set of the latest improved attachments free. Each machine guaranteed for 5 years. Buy direct from our factory, and save dealers and agents profit. Send for FREE CATALOGUE. **OXFORD MFG. COMPANY, DEPT 10, CHICAGO, ILL.**

CANDY GOOD It is 12 1/2 in. long, 6 in. wide. Pounds of Candy, French Mints, Broken and Chocolate Creams. It will not cost you a single cent; we just give it to you for advertising purposes, and we send it prepaid anywhere in the U. S. If you never had as much candy as you wanted all at one time this is your great big sure chance to get it free. It will be great for Christmas, if you don't eat it before. If you want it send us your name and address at once **BOYS' WESTERN PEARL CO., Chicago, Ill.**

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Royal Crimson Silk Velvet Finish Smokers' Companion. It is 12 1/2 in. long, 6 in. wide. 98c 2 in. thick; the inside is decorated in a most artistic manner with lovely blue silk and contains one genuine chip meerschaum pipe, the bowl being made of chips of genuine meerschaum. A magnificent pipe, having a patent stem and genuine amber lining; can be taken apart to clean, and is never sold by tobacco stores for less than two dollars. Also contains clear holder made of genuine meerschaum with genuine amber mouthpiece that is well worth half a dollar. The case on the outside is covered with genuine crimson silk velvet; will send you our royal crimson silk velvet finish smokers' companion for only 98c. Charges all prepaid and satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. This offer is made only to those who will endeavor to introduce one bottle, otherwise we charge \$3. Send this ad. to **WM. WILLIAMS, 125 S. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill.**

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THE YOUTH'S COMPANION

The Announcements in this advertisement and those which will follow will enable the friends of THE COMPANION to judge somewhat of the scope and character of the reading that will be given in its columns during 1892 — the sixty-fifth year of its issue.

Nine Illustrated Serial Stories.

The Serial Stories for the coming year will be of rare interest and variety, as well as unusual in number.

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| Lois Mallet's Dangerous Gift. A New England Quaker Girl's first Contact with "World's People"; by | Mrs. Mary Catherine Lee. |
| A Tale of the Tow-Path. The Hardships encountered by a Boy who found Life at home too Hard for him; by | Homer Greene. |
| How Dickon Came by his Name. A charmingly written Story of the Age of Chivalry; by | Harold Frederic. |
| Two "Techs" Abroad. They set off on a Tour of the World in quest of Profitable Enterprises; by | C. A. Stephens. |
| A Young Knight of Honor. The Story of a Boy who stood at his Post while Death was all around him; by | Miss Fanny M. Johnson. |
| A Boy Lieutenant. A True Narrative; by | Free S. Bowley. |
| Smoky Days. A Story of a Forest Fire; by | E. W. Thomson. |
| Touaregs. A Story of the Sahara; by | Lossing G. Brown. |
| On the Lone Mountain Route; by | Miss Will Allen Dromgoole. |

Hints on Self-Education.

Articles of great value to Young Men who desire to educate themselves.

- Hon. Andrew D. White,** Ex-President of Cornell.
President Timothy Dwight, of Yale University.
President E. H. Capen, of Tufts College.
President G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University.
President Francis L. Patton, of Princeton College
Professor James Bryce, M. P., author of the "American Commonwealth."

Practical Advice.

- The Habit of Thrift;** by **Andrew Carnegie.**
How to Start a Small Store; by **F. B. Thurber.**
Girls and the Violin. A Valuable Paper; by **Camilla Urso.**
A Chat with Edison. How to Succeed as an Electrician; **G. P. Lathrop.**
Boys in N. Y. Offices; Evils of Small Loans; by **Henry Clews.**
The Girl Who Thinks She Can Write. Three Articles of Advice by well-known Writers, **Amelia E. Barr, Jeanette L. Gilder, Kate Field.**

Five Special Features.

- A Rare Young Man.** Describing the life of a young inventor of extraordinary gifts; by **The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.**
Episodes in My Life. A delightful paper telling how he came to build the Suez Canal; by **The Count de Lesseps.**
The Story of the Atlantic Cable. Mr. Field's narrative has the thrilling interest of a romance; **Cyrus W. Field.**
Unseen Causes of Disease; Three admirable articles by the Eminent English Physician, **Sir Morell Mackenzie.**
Boys and Girls at the World's Fair. What Young Americans may do as Exhibitors; by **Col. George R. Davis.**

Glimpses of Royalty.

- Housekeeping at Windsor Castle;** by **Lady Jeune.**
How Queen Victoria Travels; by **H. W. Lucy.**
The Story of Kensington Palace; by **The Marquis of Lorne.**
How I Met the Queen; by **Nugent Robinson.**

Railway Life.

- The Safest Part of a Train;** by **Col. H. G. Prout.**
Success in Railway Life; by Supt. N. Y. Central, **Theo. Voorhees.**
Asleep at his Post; by former Supt. Mich. Southern, **Charles Paine.**
Roundhouse Stories. Humorous and pathetic; by **An Old Brakeman.**

Short Stories and Adventures.

More than One Hundred capital Stories of Adventure, Pioneering, Hunting, Touring will be printed in this volume. Among them are:

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|------------------------------------|---|--|
| The Flash-Light. | Old Thad's Stratagem. | His Day for the Flag. |
| My Queer Passenger. | Very Singular Burglars. | Capturing a Desperado. |
| Molly Barry's Manitou. | The Tin Peddler's Baby. | In the Burning Pineries. |
| Shut Up in a Microbe Oven. | Blown Across Lake Superior. | The Boys and the Wild-Cat. |
| The Cruise of a Wagon-Camp. | A Young Doctor's Queer Patients. | On a Cattle Steamer in a Storm. |

The Illustrations will be improved and increased in number. The Weekly Editorials on the leading Foreign and Domestic Topics will be marked by impartiality and clearness. Household Articles will be contributed by well-known writers. The Children's Page will be more attractive than ever. The Illustrated Weekly Supplements, adding nearly one-half to the size of the paper, will be continued.

"A Yard of Roses."

New Subscribers who send \$1.75 now, will receive THE YOUTH'S COMPANION FREE to January 1, 1892, and for a full year from that date. This offer includes the THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S DOUBLE HOLIDAY NUMBERS and all the ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY SUPPLEMENTS. Any person who mentions this paper when subscribing will receive a copy of a beautiful painting, entitled, "A YARD OF ROSES." Its production has cost TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS. Specimen Copies Free. Address,

**Free to
Jan. 1892.**

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, Boston, Mass.

Send Check, Post-office Order, or Registered Letter at our risk.

WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

Theodore Roosevelt, the civil service champion, wants to have an "American sportsman's exhibit" made at the exposition. In explanation of his idea he says: "I want an exhibit of every weapon and utensil used in hunting, fishing and trapping since the discovery of the country down to the present day. We have the greatest hunting country on earth. The Boone and Crockett Club, of which I am a member, is enthusiastic over an exhibition of the kind, and want nothing in it but what is American! For instance, I know where the rifles used by Davy Crockett and Daniel Boone can be secured. Nothing could be more interesting than a collection of the kind. The exhibition should embrace the heads of all kinds of American game of the

larger sort, and specimens of the smaller game, animals, birds and fishes; the old wigwams, hunting shocks of pioneer days, all kinds of weapons, and all the conveniences that go to make up a modern hunting-camp."

British Columbia has decided to build a structure, which will be a novelty in architecture, composed of every variety of wood known to the British Columbia forests. The building will be built first in sections of contrasting woods neatly mortised together. The roof will be of native slate and a variety of cedar shingles, making in all a pleasing effect. It is intended to ship the building in sections, ready to be erected on its arrival. The display will be unique in every way, the government and cities of the province subscribing to the fund.

Sir Walter Bullard, who owns the finest collection of native Maori curiosities and paintings in the world, has applied for space in which to display his collection, and intends visiting the exposition with his family. Maj. John Wilson, of Auckland, has submitted a proposition to the Foreign Affairs Committee to bring a colony of Maoris to the exposition, house them in one of their native-built forts, and let them show their native costumes, home life, and methods of warfare. The proposition is regarded with some favor, as it would add greatly to the value of the general ethnological exhibit of the exposition.

The Palace of Music at the exposition, it is now expected, will stand on the great island formed by the lagoons, and will be surrounded by a magnificent garden of flowers, ten acres

or more in extent. This location is desired by Theodore Thomas, musical director of the exposition, but has not yet been finally passed upon by the board of directors. The structure will measure 150 by 250 feet, and cost approximately \$100,000.

Prof. Ward, the well-known mineralogist and scientist, of Rochester, N. Y., called upon Director-General Davis, a few days ago, and offered to send his entire collection of geological specimens to the exposition. His collection represents the expenditure of a great deal of money and the work of years, and is one of the most complete in this country. At the centennial, Prof. Ward was allotted space 120x130 feet. If he can secure it, he will fill considerably more space at the exposition of 1893.

Our Fireside.

THE TONGUE.

"The boneless tongue, so small and weak,
Can crush and kill," declared the Greek.
"The tongue destroys a greater horde,"
The Turk asserts, "than does the sword."
The Persian proverb wisely saith,
"A lengthy tongue—an early death."
Or sometimes takes this form instead:
"Don't let your tongue cut off your head."
"The tongue can speak a word whose speed,"
Says the Chinese, "outstrips the steed."
While Arah sages this impart:
"The tongue's great storehouse is the heart."
From Hebrew wit the maxim sprung,
"Though feet should slip, ne'er let the tongue."
The sacred writer crowns the whole,
"Who keeps his tongue doth keep his soul."

BY AND BY.

Down the stream where the tide is clearer,
Farther on where the shores are fair,
Are the gracious forms we would fain be nearer,
The names we speak in the voice of prayer.
Be the voyage long they will be the dearer
When after while we shall greet them there,
Farther on where the tide is clearer,
Down the stream where the shores are fair.

By and by when the sun is shining,
After while when the skies are clear,
When the cloud unfolds its silver lining
And shores of the peaceful isles draw near,
We shall free our tongues from their dull repining
And fill our hearts with the words of cheer—
After while when the sun is shining,
By and by when the skies are clear.

—Chicago Herald.

[Original.]

LITTLE SAMMY MARTIN.

BY GENEVIEVE HAYS.

AND y' want to know how it happened that me, an old woman, pore as y' once know'd me, with no means to help myself 'nd no friends able to give me a helpin' hand, should now be livin' in this fine house, on this well-stocked farm, with peace 'nd plenty like the broodin' wings of a white dove hoverin' over me?

Well, I answers 'nd tells y' that it's all the doin's of little Sam Martin, my first 'nd only chld by old Sam Martin, which a meaner critter never lived! An angel from heaven couldn't live in peace with old Sam! I tried it myself, off 'nd on, fur seventeen year, 'nd when he moved back here with thet new woman of his, I went to see her. I neighbored with her; I treated her the best in the world; I said to her, pore critter:

"You mayn't hev done egzackly right—takin' up with my husband the way you did afore he got his divorce—but I bear y' no ill-will, seein' thet y're not over 'nd above sharp, 'nd knowin' what a sleek tongue Sam has in his head. I pity ye. Y' live with Sam Martin!"

Where did I go when I left him? Back 'nd forth atween Reuben's 'nd Jacob's—sons of my first husband, y' remember—'nd mighty good children they were, too, but pore 'nd hard put to to make a livin'. Reuben's wife was no manager, 'nd Jacob's was sickly; each feared I'd do more for one than the other, so they were forever sendin' fur me fur somethin' or uther; 'nd sometimes I'd get so bewildered like, with trapsein' back 'nd forth, thet I'd get turned 'round, 'nd go straight back to the place I'd jest started from.

They meant to be kind, both of 'em, but another's home ain't the same as yer own, as ye'll find out if y' ever try it; 'nd then I grieved over little Annie, my dead daughter's child. 'Thout meanin' it, they gave her an underling's place, 'nd sometimes I myself felt thet my room'd be more welcome than my company.

But what could I do, a helpless old woman like me, with neither hoof nor head of property, 'nd no roof to shelter me? For before he left old Sam had sold everything on the place 'nd burnt down our dwellin'-house, so's to make sure thet I couldn't live on my own land after he was gone, though he didn't 'low it'd be mine long, as 't would soon be sold fur taxes.

Only a strip of wild land lyin' up here in the Virginia mountains, but my all, 'nd I grieved at the thought of partin' with it. I tried each one of the boys, makin' 'em the same offer. If they'd pay off those taxes, I'd give 'em a straight, out 'nd out deed for the land. But they talked discouragin'. Neither had the money. Said I:

"You have property. Thet'll fetch the money."

But 'twas no use. I could see what was the matter. It'd look too much like robbin' me 'nd little Sam if they accepted my offer, 'nd neither could bring himself to lay out thet much money for us, so they had both determined to let it go.

I argy'd 'nd reasoned with them till within three days of the sale. Then, seein' thet neither of 'em'd take holt 'nd do, I said:

"I'm a goin' fur little Sam Martin."

At thet Reuben jest laughed.
"You'll never get there," he said, for little Sam was workin' for old Squire Raydor, seven miles away, 'nd over the roughest road y' ever traveled, jest up hill 'nd down the whole way.

"I'm a goin'," said I, puttin' ou my bounet 'nd shawl.

That brought him to reason.

"Why, mother," he argy'd, "what's the 'use of actin' in sech a ridiculous fashion, trampin' all thet distance? What'll the old squire thiuk of sech a way of doin', 'nd what good'll it do if you do see little Sam? A boy of thirteen, thet makes his money by nickels 'nd dimes, ain't likely to hev thirty odd dollars about him."

I saw he was gittin' riled. Reuben is dretful like my first husband—sot in his way, 'nd so is Jacob, too, fur thet matter—so I didn't stop to argy, but jest said:

"It's nothin' but fair 'nd right thet I should give little Sam the same chance I've given you other boys. And anyway, I shan't feel so bad about the land bein' sold if I know thet I've done my level best to prevent it."

With thet I started. But I hated dretful to pass Jacob's. I knew he'd be as sot agin my goin' as Reuben was, or worse. And sure enough, there he was, at work at the lower medder fence as I come by.

"Well, mother," he said, "I'm glad to see you. Jest promised Lucindy thet I'd step up 'nd get you to come stay with the children while she's gone. Mrs. Jenkins has a quiltin' to-morrow, 'nd 'Ciudy 'lowed to go over this evenin', as it's a right smart step across the mountain, 'nd she ain't very stout nohow."

"You'll hev to get along without me to-night, Jacob," said I, "for I'm now on my way to Squire Raydor's."

"What's the matter?" asked he, surprised like. "Is little Sam sick?"

Then I told him what I was up to, 'nd he made a great to-do about it, went on worse than Reuben had done. Where them boys gets their stubbornness is more than I can tell, for Ike Thomson, their father, was as reasonable a critter as ever lived. However, I gave him one more chance.

"Go 'nd pay those taxes," said I, "'nd let me give you a good, clear deed for thet land. You'll never hev another sech an offer, 'nd it's a sight more encouragin' to a man to know thet he's workin' for himself than for some one else."

"Well," said Jacob, "go on down to the house, 'nd I'll see about it."

"No," said I, "you don't come any of thet nouse over me," for I saw thet he was jest putting me off that way to keep me from goin'. "You've had long enough to see about it," said I, "'nd now it don't need so much seein' as doin'."

At thet he set up a string of argyment, but I jest walked off 'thout listenin' to't. It was a powerful long ways to Squire Raydor's, 'nd the boys never thought I'd make it in the world, but I did. It was good dusk when I got there, 'nd the very first one I saw was little Sam, jest gettin' in with a load of wood.

"Why, mother," he cried, leavin' the yoke of yearlings he was drivin' 'nd comin' to meet me, "what is the matter?"

I was thet tired 'nd spent y' couldn't think, 'nd when I saw my boy standin' before me, lookin' at me with his kind, honest eyes—jest as he looked when he answered, "I'll stay with mother," the time old Sam had told him to choose between us—that I could have cried for thankfulness.

Little Sam never says much. He never made over melike my other children; but for all thet, he's truer grit than any one o' 'em, 'nd cau allus be depended on in the time of trouble. So now, when I'd told him what'd brought me there, 'nd he had answered in thet quiet way of his, thet was more convincin' than any amount of boastin' could ha' been, "I'll do the best I can, mother," my mind was perfectly easy 'nd at rest, for I felt sure thet little Sam'd manage it all right somehow.

Well, they was all kind. Both the squire 'nd his wife treated me well 'nd bragged a powerful sight on little Sam. He'd been with 'em nigh onto three year, 'nd all thet time he'd worked steady 'nd faithful. The squire said he tuk more interest in keepin' things straight than his own boys did, 'nd Mrs. Raydor said thet he was as handy about the house as a girl.

But I could see thet they was all a wonderin' what'd fetched me, so when supper was cleared away 'nd we was all a helpin' Mrs. Raydor peel apples, I told 'em the whole of it.

"Sam ain't no speudthrift," said the squire, as I finished, "and I've taught him the value of a penny, so I reckon he can help you a mite."

I hadn't as much as five dollars in the world 'nd so I told 'em out 'nd out, for I believe in bein' honest 'nd straightforward with folks thet air friendly 'nd willin' to help you.

"I've got jest fourteen dollars," said little Sam, "but you're welcome to thet 'nd anythin' thet I can do."

"Jacob 'r Reuben'll be likely to help y' out with the balance," put in Mrs. Raydor.

I knew't wouldn't be any use to try either o' them again, but I didn't say anything. I don't believe in runnin' down yer own kin when y' can keep from it. But I noticed thet the squire looked at me dreadful sharp-like, 'nd the next mornin' he said: "Hev y' hit upon any plan for gettin' the rest o' thet money yet?"

"Well," answered I, "not exactly. But I've got a good start now, 'nd with little Sam's help I think we cau pull through somehow."

Then I told him how I'd been thinkin' of tryin' to borrow it of old Israel Davis—him thet is an own cousin to old Sam Martin—'nd though Israel is as tight as the bark on a tree, 'nd thatt close-fisted thet he'd grip a piece of

silver so tight that the eagle on it would squawk before he'd part with it, yet I thought thet for little Sam's sake, 'nd knowin' to a certainty thet we'd pay the money back—every cent of it—thet he'd accommodate us.

But the squire said: "You're dependin' on a broken stick when you depend on Israel. I know to a dead certainty thet he's expectin' to buy thet land—cheap! He's had his eye on it fur some time."

Now this struck me as gospel truth, for whatever else Squire Raydor's failin' air, lyin' ain't one of 'em, 'nd I knew thet Israel hed a perfect maniac fur buyin' up wild land—though what in the world he intends doing with it is more than I can tell, for he ain't chick nor child of his own, 'nd soon all thet he'll need'll be six foot of earth—the same that's given the commonest beggar—so I couldn't help feelin' discouraged. Money don't grow on bushes in these parts, 'nd though I had friends in plenty, yet they were all pore like myself, 'nd not one of 'em able to help me at the very time I most needed help.

Seein' me look so disheartened, little Sam said somethin' aside to the squire, who, after a little demurin', took out his pocket-book 'nd counted out fifteen dollars.

"If 'tain't paid within a year," said he, handin' it to me, "Sam's to let me have his yoke of yearlin's."

It hurt me as much as it did little Sam himself—his parting with those yearlin's—for they were the pride of his heart, 'nd he'd worked faithful for 'em—broke 'em himself—'nd they 'thought thet much of him thet they'd follow him anywhere. Thet was the way little Sam drove them—he jest went ahead 'nd they follow'd.

But I 'lowed the land'd do him more good in the long run than the yearlin's, 'nd, too, he had a chance—though a slim one—of gettin' 'em back, and I jest said to myself, then and there, thet I'd do everything in my power to help him.

It was noon when we got to Reuben's, and surprised enough he was to learn how successful I'd been, tho' he growled consid'able about the sacrifice of the yearlin's 'nd prophesied thet little Sam'd never get 'em in his possession again, as the old squire was too shrewd a trader to ever let sech a bargain as thet slip through his fingers.

Well, I hurried Sam off, notwithstanding Reuben declared 'twas no use goin' till the next day. But I never could see any use of puttin' off to the last minit what might as well be done beforehand.

It was fifteen miles to the court-house and little Sam went alone, but I wasn't a mite oneasy about him. He was thet steady 'nd trustworthy thet it never once crossed my mind thet any harm could happen him, or thet the payin' off o' those taxes'd be any surer if I'd gone myself.

I didn't look fur him back afore the next evenin', for I 'lowed thet he'd make it back from the court-house to old Israel Davis' that night 'nd stop a spell with his cousins there afore startin' home.

But jest after breakfast next mornin', happenin' to glance down the road, I saw little Sam comin', slow-like with a troubled air, 'nd I knew in a minit somethin' was wrong.

He gave me a sort of troubled look as he come in the door, 'nd I said: "Well, Sam! What's the matter?"

"Mr. Harris, answered he—the county clerk, y' remember—said thet he was too busy to see about thet now, but to come next week 'nd he'd straiten it up. I know as well as y' do thet'll be too late then, so I tried my best to get him to see to't then and there; but seein' thet I was only a boy 'nd ignorant of sech matters, he put me off, though I can't tell what fur."

I could! Only I was thet mad I wouldn't trust myself to speak. Oh, a cunnin' pack of rascals these lawyers air with their artful plannin' to rob widows 'nd orphans of their own 'nd defraud pore, ignorant people of their rights! 'Nd I allus did think what a blessin' it was fur the country thet old Sam didn't hev the eddication to be one; for, aside from the mischief done here, he'd hev swindled old Nick out of his throne in the next world 'nd so made a worse time fur us all than we hev ever had yet!

Well, as I was sayin', I was too mad to speak, though thet didn't keep me from thinkin'; so I jest walked out into the field where Reuben was plowin'.

"Take yer horse out of the gears, Reuben," said I, "I'm goin' to the court-house."

He saw by my countenance that 'two'd be no use to argy with me, so he contented himself with grumblin' a little, 'nd on findin' out what was up, offered to go in my place.

But I wouldn't hear to't—I'd had enough of sendin', 'nd now I was goin' myself. So I set little Sam a bite to eat—for he had started from Israel's before daylight 'nd come all thet distance 'thout a bite of breakfast—'nd while the horse was feedin' I got ready 'nd in less than an hour little Sam 'nd I were on our way back to the court-house.

'Thout any mishap we got there 'nd went direct to the clerk's office, 'nd I must say that Job Harris was as much surprised to see us as I had been to see little Sam that mornin'. But he saw thet he was beat. It was a woman he had to deal with, not a child; so he made out those receipts 'thout turnin' a word. 'Nd I didn't stay to waste any breath on him, for a man thet has the heart to act as he did, hasn't

a conscience thet could be affected by any words of warnin' or advice.

"Well," said Reuben, when we'd got back, "I reckon yer mind is at rest now about thet land."

"No," said I, " 'nd it 'll not be at rest till I'm livin' there in a house of my own—which 'll be afore winter sets in."

Well he thought I was plum crazy shore, 'nd said as much. But I stuck to it 'nd tried to get him to see things in the same light thet I did—which it seemed impossible for him to do—'nd I'll allow thet, as Reuben said, it was a busy time of the year, with the crops to be gathered in 'nd fall seedin' to do, but I've learned thet the surest way of gettin' a thing is not to give up till you get it; so I said to Reuben:

"Of course, you boys can use your own pleasure 'bout helpin' me, but I'm goin' into a home of my own, even if I have no better roof to shelter me than thet overhanging cliff of rocks. I can sweep a floor 'nd light a fire there 'nd it 'll be home. That's somethin' you boys can't give me with you—no matter how much y' try—the free air of home."

Well, seein' how determined I was, the boys set, to and had a raisin'. The neighbors all helped, 'nd in less time than I had expected, the house was up 'nd a good roof over it. It had but one door 'nd one window, yet I was as proud as a queen in a palace, 'nd worked fur days fixin' up little conveniences, daubin' the chlnks 'nd fillin' 'em in with moss, tell everythin' was snug as suug could be. Firewood was handy—all about us—'nd when Jacob 'nd Reuben together'd built a chimney 'nd dug a well, I took little Annie 'nd moved right in, the boys all the time prophesyin' thet I'd starve out in a few weeks 'nd come back to them.

We jest had in a manuer nothin' to start with, but I worked 'nd managed—the neighbors helpin' me 'nd me workin' fur them—'nd little Sam brought me his week's earnin's, regular as clockwork, 'nd then'd stay over Sunday with us. He was the greatest blessing to me, thet boy, thet ever a woman had, 'nd rough though it was, he 'nd little Annie loved their home—the first they'd ever known.

Those were the happiest days I'd had fur many a year, 'nd when spring came 'nd we tended our own garden 'nd got all the work outside thet we could do, I was the proudest person in the land.

Little Sam argy'd with me 'bout workin' out 'nd 'lowed he could support us 'thout that, 'nd jest to humor him I agreed to't. But la! I didn't lntend being sech a burden to my boy; so we worked 'nd managed, little Annie 'nd I, 'nd got along 'thout spendin' a cent of his earnin's, 'nd so it happened when I gave him fifteen dollars to redeem his yearlin's thet it was the greatest surprise of his life. He tried to speak, then choked up 'nd looked at me with his eyes swimmin' in tears.

"It's every cent yours, Sam," I said; "coun' it 'nd see—your weeks earnin's thet you've been bringin' me since last fall, 'nd thet I jest saved fur ye, so y' needn't thank me fur what is honestly your own."

And the squire was as good as his word. He let Sam have the yearlin's—much to Reuben's surprise, 'nd mine, too, fur thet matter! But the squire had taken a great likin' to Sam, 'nd years after gave him his daughter—as sweet 'nd sensible a girl as ever lived—for a wife; 'nd she doesn't require any drivin' either! She'd foller little Sam fur love's sake to the ends of the earth—not thet he's goin' there. He's on his way to heaven 'nd all his family air follerin' close in his footsteps; 'nd to my thinkin' it's a sight better plan to lead folks by love than drive them by fear.

'Nd it's from sech a beginnin' as thet thet little Sam Martin has now become the most well-to-do 'nd respected man in these parts, 'nd given me a home in my old age thet few women air blessed with.

Little Annie, too, is well pervided fur 'nd married to one of the likeliest young men in the neighborhood. He's a good pervider 'nd they hev plenty to do with, but if it hadn't been fur little Sam's pluck 'nd energy she'd never hev hed sech a chance.

So, as I said in the beginnin', it's all his doin's, for though the Lord has prospered us, yet it's onreasonable to suppose that he'd hev done so to sech an extent if we hadn't first tried to help ourselves. Thet's what we've all got to do if we succeed. The age of merakles is past, 'nd 'tain't likely thet any one else'll take up yer life burden 'nd carry it fur ye if y' don't so much as try to lift it yo'rself.

TO FIND A DESIRABLE BOARDING-HOUSE.

There is one man, at least, in Chicago, who has his own ideas regarding investigation of boarding-houses. Being obliged to secure new quarters, he went into a good meat shop and asked the butcher to tell him of the boarding-houses where he sold the best meat. The butcher gave him two places, and he at once went and engaged board. The method was new, but it was wise.

For Colds, Coughs

bronchitis,
and all diseases
of the throat
and lungs,
take

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

FOR HIS HEALTH.

He came to Texas for his health. Also, for that same reason he went away.

The way of it was this: When the Wretch—his name was Reginald Croswaite, but we called him Wretch for short—left college somewhere in the dusky East, his family decided that hard study had wrought havoc with the poor fellow's health and forthwith sent him to try sun-cure as only Texas furnishes it. As a matter of fact, he had studied nothing more serious than a beautiful assortment of Bohn's cribs. His ill-health was due to causes not connected with the intended routine of college life.

So the peaceful little community of Jimville, Texas, awoke one day to consciousness of the fact that it harbored Reginald Croswaite, Esq., gorgeous in store clothes and an English accent. Old man Bowman, who in some remote and inexplicable way was related to the Wretch, and at whose house the latter stayed, expressed himself about the newcomer in the general store one day.

"He's a queer critter," he said, "an' I an't so pesky fond of him as I should be, he being kin o' mine. I don't rightly understand his ways, mebbe, bein' brung up different like, but I an't er hankerin' after seein' er chile er mine that-away."

And that was, perhaps, the feeling of all of us there in Jimville. We were plain folk, and Texas seemed very fair to us. As for the things the Wretch bragged to us of, sometimes in his condescending way—well, the East was welcome to them. Dante and Delsarte might be necessary adjuncts in that sheltered life "down east;" in Texas they were out of place. There was tragedy enough in our daily lives, and any cowboy will tell you that riding the range will give you more grace than all the aesthetic professors in the world.

It was winter—by the calendar and northern weather—when the Wretch came to us. As the spring came on we thought surely the glamour of it would seize him also, for there is nothing more glorious than a Texas spring. When the juicy grasses begin to cover the pastures, growing almost visibly, with wild flowers of strange beauty and variety springing up, mushroom-like, on the face of the earth; when the mesquite trees shoot out their slender, knife-like leaves, and the cedars take on new fragrance, new color; when the soft, gentle balm of the south breeze induces a feeling of absolute rest—the person who can be in Texas then and not feel something of the joy of living where spring is so glorious, is not a person fit for decent society. But the Wretch never opened his mouth in praise of anything Texan. He only turned his nose and his trousers a little higher up and spoke unpleasant things about the "infernal mud."

I think the Wretch had but few friends in Jimville. His cigars and his whiskey may have made him some friends among the sort of men who fawn on any one so he but "stand treat."

His only amusement seemed to be riding. He generally rode to Marstown, the nearest post-office, and his face wore an almost happy look when he came back from there. We supposed he was getting letters from home. His way of riding the trot was a thing that Jimville laughed at. He said he was "riding English." We said the pony's name was "Rube," and incidentally ventured that if he were to ride that way for days at a time his hide would be in shreds small enough to make saddle-straps of.

Spring drifted away before the fierce summer sun, and he was still with us. And then the new schoolma'am came. The old one had been offered a school near Austin and had left us. She was an elderly, homely lady and nobody paid much attention to her.

But the new schoolma'am! She was young, and—so pretty. The blush of an Alexandria peach on her velvety cheeks—how she kept her complexion in that climate is a mystery chimeric—and the glint of the cloudless, azure Texas sky was in her eyes. She was the daughter of a farmer in a neighboring township, and her name was Mamie Alwin. She hadn't taught school a week before all the children in the district were her very humble servants. Consequently she ruled the village.

The Wretch evinced a sudden fondness for pedestrianism after this. He used to happen by the schoolhouse in the most casual way just about the time that institution of learning was letting out. Then he would walk home with Miss Alwin and carry her books and things. He used to talk very sweetly to her, I fancy, and she seemed to grow quite fond of him. Jimville looked on and swore to itself. There was no denying it—the schoolma'am was falling in love with the Wretch.

The man who swore loudest and most fervently at this state of things was Lariat Dick, the cowboy. He loved the schoolma'am since he first set eyes on her, but his rough, unpolished ways would not let him show his love except in the wistfulness of his big eyes. He was a hard, uncultured fellow, used to an ungentle life, but he was honest as the day was long. Like all strong, home-keeping men, he venerated women with an almost childlike fervor.

One evening—the summer was already well advanced, and the Wretch and Mamie were in Jimville's eyes as good as engaged—Lariat Dick clattered past the outlying houses of the village at a pace that betokened something unusual. His pony was covered with sweat, and the man himself looked dark as a cloud.

He rode up to the general store, where at that time nearly all Jimville congregated. As he came in, the storm-cloud on his face was not pleasant to look at.

"Read that," he said to old man Bowman, handing him a letter; "read it out loud, so's you all kin hear it."

Bowman took it, his hand trembling a little, and began to read. It was to the Wretch, from a girl in the East. It was an appeal that he return soon, that the twain might be married in July.

"How did you get it?" asked Bowman, as he folded the paper up again.

"I was up to Marstown," said Lariat Dick, "layin' in stores so's I could put my freight for the Jacinto ranch at sunup. There I meets a pard, Jack Peters, as has punched cows with me some frequently. Me and him goes into the Red Front to kinder foster old recollections, an' who should I see there but yere eastern tenderfoot, Croswaite. He's kinder mellow, bein' some driuks ahead. Jack an' me is a standin' there tradin' lies quite gaily when I hears Croswaite say: 'Here's to the best girl in the country, as I'm goin' to marry!' Which I drinks to likewise, me thinkin' as he means our schoolmarm. 'Yes,' he goes on, 'pretty soon I makes tracks for home and gets married. See, she says July.' An' with that he sights a letter at me, which of course I reads. When I gits the how of it rounded up in my head, I knocks the scoundrel down without argument. Then I rides for here. An' now, what's this ranch goin' to do?"

After this flow of eloquence Dick waited, lowering and expectant. We had weighed the matter already while he was speaking. In the land where the Wretch came from, we thought, it might be quite a usual thing to be engaged to one girl and make love to another, but we wouldn't have it so in Jimville. And before the breath, exhausted by the ride and rapid speech, was all into Dick again, the murmur arose, swelling like the fury of a cyclone, and growing more distinct till the final "He's got to leave Texas" came from the crowd as a lightning-flash shoots from the cloud-rift.

"Who'll tell him?" asked somebody.

"I will," said Lariat Dick.

Just then there was the sound of a rush of hoofs outside, of a horse being thrown back almost onto its haunches, a muttered oath, and then the Wretch stepped into the store, his eyes ablaze. The knock-down blow had driven the liquor fumes from him. But it had also infuriated him almost out of all reason.

"I want the man—" he began; then he paused, noting that he spoke to the gleamug barrel of a six-shooter.

"Yes," said Lariat Dick, "I reckon you wants me, an' I ain't stampeded none. You don't want me worse than we wants you. I've bin out out of a herd to sort o' hold an experience meetin' with you. Now, what I asks of you, you answers to. Savy?"

The Wretch made a quick motion to his hip. But in a moment a dozen more pistols were leveled at him.

"No," went on Dick, "you can't buck none. Now answer. Air you engaged to be hitched to a girl back East?"

"I am," came sullenly from between the clenched teeth.

"Does our schoolmarm know it?"

"No."

"Haven't you made love to her?"

"That depends on what you cattle call making—"

"Noue o' that, now. Quick! Have you?"

There was an ominous click in the stillness.

"Well—yes."

"Then," Dick's voice rose to a fierceness and a thunder that was awful in that small room, "yon leave Jimville and Texas in twenty-four hours, or we fills you so full of lead that you'll weigh heavier than your sin. You needn't stop to tell Miss Alwin; we'll do that. Now—git."

The Wretch slunk out. In a few minutes we heard the steady hoof-beats of his pony, first strong, then fainter and fainter. Reginald Croswaite had passed out of our lives.

Next day Lariat Dick "pulled his freight," after an interview with the schoolma'am that left her all atears and him with a set look on his face that seemed like the look of a broken man. He was always a reckless rider; it grew on him after that. They brought him home one day—on a shutter. Miss Alwin wept a little, just as any woman would, but no more. And she never married.—J. Percival Pollard, in Frank Leslie's.

THROUGH SUEZ.

Bonaparte broached the plan of re-cutting through Suez. Half a century later Engineer De Lesseps did it. He actually changed geography. He broke a continent in two for the world's commerce. An old man now, Count De Lesseps writes for *The Youth's Companion*, in humorous, charming vein, how he came to build the canal.

Miss Frances Willard's long practice in presiding at public meetings has given her an ease of manner in the chair that many a man might envy. She is among the few women who produce the impression of being no more embarrassed when acting as chairman for a large assembly than she would feel with a single guest in her own drawing-room.

We call attention to the WEST SHORE MAGAZINE's advertisement on page 13.



ENGLISH DECORATED

Dinner Set, No. 43, 112 Pieces.

Premium with an order of \$20.00.

Or packed and delivered at depot for \$9.00 cash.

WE are IMPORTERS of Tea and Coffee, China and Crockery, and do the largest Tea and Coffee business in Boston (direct with consumers). We also carry a large stock and sell at the lowest possible Cash prices Dinner and Tea Sets, Silver-plated Ware, Lamps, also Lace Curtains and Table Linen (our own importation). To those who take the time and trouble to get up Clubs for Tea, Coffee, Spices and Extracts, we offer premiums. In buying Tea and Coffee from us, you get full value for the money invested and get a premium and you get goods that are direct from the IMPORTERS. If you buy Tea and Coffee from your grocer you pay three or four profits and pay for a premium, but do not get it. In an article published in one of the largest dailies in this country it was claimed the tea bought from the retail grocer showed a profit of 100 per cent. The moral is plain, buy from first hands.

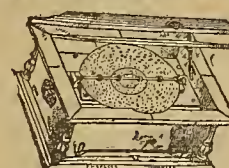
We have been doing business in Boston for 17 years, and the publishers of this paper will testify to our undoubted reliability. We do a business of over \$300,000 yearly, and our Cash sales of Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets, Silverware, Lamps, etc., amounted to \$59,000 in 1890 aside from our Tea and Coffee sales. Our illustrated Price and Premium List tells the whole story. We like to mail it to all who write for it; it costs you nothing and will interest you. 136 pages.

THE LONDON TEA CO., 795 Washington Street, Boston.



For 30 Days. Wishing to introduce our CRAYON PORTRAITS and at the same time extend our business and make new customers, we have decided to make this Special Offer: Send us a Cabinet Picture, Photograph, Tintype, Ambratype or Daguerotype of yourself or any member of your family, living or dead and we will make you a CRAYON PORTRAIT FREE OF CHARGE, provided you exhibit it to your friends as a sample of our work, and use your influence in securing us future orders. Place name and address on back of picture and it will be returned in perfect order. We make any change in picture you wish, not interfering with the likeness. Refer to any bank in Chicago. Address all mail to THE CRESCENT CRAYON CO. Opposite New German Theatre, CHICAGO, ILL. P.S.—We will forfeit \$100 to anyone sending us photo and not receiving crayon picture FREE as per this offer. This offer is bonafide.

Grand Orchestral Musical Boxes.



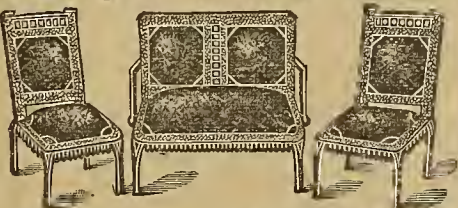
If you have not received my new catalogue you should ask for one. The Symphonion, is the only Music Box with changeable steel plates. Plays

1000 DIFFERENT TUNES.

THE LATEST AND MOST DESIRABLE MUSIC BOX TO BUY.

FRED. H. SANDER, Importer, 146 Franklin St., Boston.

AN ASTONISHING OFFER



This beautiful miniature UPHOLSTERED PARLOR SET of three pieces (for the next 60 days) will be sent to any address on receipt of 95 cents to pay expenses, boxing, packing, advertising, etc. This is done as an advertisement and we shall expect every one getting a set to tell their friends who see it where they got it and to recommend our house to them. This beautiful set consists of one sofa and two chairs. They are made of fine lustrous metal frames, beautifully finished and decorated, and upholstered in the finest manner with beautiful plush (which we furnish in any color desired.) To advertise our house, for 60 days, we propose to furnish these sets on receipt of 95 cents. Postage stamps taken. No additional charge for boxes or shipping; order immediately. No attention paid to letters unless they contain 95 cents.

F. I. GRAY & CO., 5 & 7 Murray Street, N. Y.

Always mention this paper.

5000 A HANDSOME PRESENT! FREE

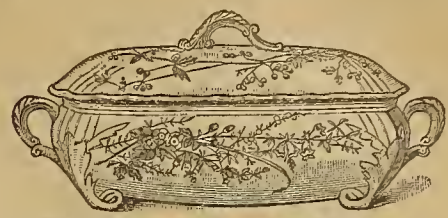
We have decided to give away a complete photographic outfit absolutely free. If you wish to secure one of these PHOTOGRAPHIC OUTFITS FREE, cut out this advertisement and send it to us in a sealed envelope. We will send you a package containing all of the following: 1 copy of Gulliver's Travels, a standard juvenile book; 1 Game of Authors, 48 cards; 1 Set of Dominoes, 1 Chess and Checker Board with men, 1 Myo-Age Tablet, Fox and Geese and Nine Men, Morris Boards with Men, 50 Choice Conundrums, 275 Autograph Album Selections, 11 Parlor Games, 13 Magnetic Experiments, 1 Game of Fortune, 1 Morse Telegraph Alphabet and 10 other Games. This is a bonafide offer by a thoroughly reliable firm to the subscribers of this paper. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Show this to your friends. Address, Glen Canada Co., 294 Broadway, N. Y. Mention this paper when you write.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY GIFT OFFER.

Our Royal Crimson Silk Velvet Plush Stationery Box. It is of the extreme large size, 7 in. long, 5 1/2 in. wide, 3 in. thick, the inside is decorated in the most artistic and beautiful manner, and contains 24 sheets of superior commercial note paper, 24 superfine commercial envelopes, 1 solid German silver practical fountain penholder and golden pen, the latest and best fountain pen made, writes 5000 words without refilling, and contains all the writing tools any man, woman or child possibly needs, and readily sells for many times our price. It also contains 1 exquisite lead pencil and 1 blotting pad. The box on the outside is covered with genuine crimson silk velvet plush, such cases have been selling for as much as \$10. To introduce our goods we will send you our Royal Crimson Silk Velvet Plush Stationery Box for only 66c. Charges prepaid and satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. This is made only to those who will endeavor to introduce our goods, otherwise we charge \$4.00. Send six and this advertisement to WM. WILLIAMS, 125 South Halsted St., Chicago, Ill. FREE—The first 100 replies ordering this set will receive free, one pair gold plated diamond set diamond set, one rolled gold French diamond ring, one rolled gold diamond stud, and one pair cuff buttons. BE IN TIME. Mention this paper when you write.

A PRESENT.

SEND us your address and we will make you a present of the best Automatic WASHING MACHINE in the World. No wash-board or rubbing needed. We want you to show it to your friends, or act as agent if you can. You can COIN MONEY. We also give a HANDSOME WATCH to the first from each county. Write quick, address to N. Y. LAUNDRY WORKS, 80 Murray Street, N. Y. Mention this paper when you write.



ENGLISH PORCELAIN

Gold Band Dinner Set, No. 250, 106 Pieces. Decorated in Three Modest Natural Colors.

Premium with an order of \$45.00.

Cash Price, packed and delivered at depot, \$14.00. An Elegant Set.

Automatic Bobbin Winder. 15 Days' Trial. Warranted 5 years. Self-setting needle, self-threading shuttle. Light-running and noiseless. All attachments. Send THE C. A. WOOD CO., for free 17 N. 10th St., Phila., Pa. circular. Mention this paper.

FREE Ladies or Gents Size Hunting style. Box Case SOLID GOLD WATCH. The most elegant and artistic engraving ever put on a watch, and the handsome appearance and rich finish alone will attract attention wherever taken from your pocket. Sells at sight, and for that reason we take no risk in the following offer: This solid gold watch (not plated or gold filled but genuine solid gold) will be fitted with a jeweled sign or Waltham stem wind movement, fully warranted (remember this is no "cheap jeweled movement" but our genuine Elgin or Waltham make) that will always give you perfect time, besides enhancing the value of the watch in case you ever want to sell it. So many unreliable concerns offer bargains that prove otherwise after you have bought and paid for the goods that we will leave it for you to judge whether you can buy as good a watch as this for less than \$75.00 elsewhere. SPECIAL GOLD WATCH OFFER limited to stock on hand. Cut out this advertisement and we will send one of these elegant solid gold watches, ladies' or gents' size, stem wind and set by express C. O. D. if a bargain and you want it, pay the agent \$18.90 and charges. If no return to us at our expense. It costs you nothing to see it. WILLIAMS & CO., 125 South Halsted Street, Chicago, Ill.

REMNANTS FOR CRAZY PATCHWORK. ART in needlework is on the advance. We know the ladies delight in odd pieces of silk and satin,—"CRAZY QUILT" making is VERY popular. We are sure we have a bargain that all ladies will now delight in. Bright, handsome, odd-shaped and pretty colored goods accumulate very fast at all NECKTIE FACTORIES; for years have been burdened and overrun with remnants of many RICH GOODS. We have thousands of pieces of silk and satin on hand which we are going to give you a big trade on. People at a distance have hard times getting the right assortment to put into sofa-pillows, quilts, etc., and we can help you out now. We are going to dispose of this immense lot RIGHT OFF. Our packages contain from 90 to 168 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get a lot introduced into every home; then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these pieces are carefully trimmed, and especially adapted to all sorts of fancy art, and needle work. Many ladies sell tidies, fancy pillows, etc., at a great price made from these remnants. Order one sample lot now for only 25c. It would cost many dollars bought at a store. GRAND OFFER: If you order our great assorted lot AT ONCE, we will give you absolutely FREE, five yards of elegant embroidery silk, all different bright colors. This silk is worth nearly the price we ask for the remnants; but we know if you order ONE lot we will sell many in your locality, so make this liberal offer. Three lots for 65c.; five for \$1.00. BEST WAY. We send one of the above complete assorted lots FREE to all who send 25 cents for 6 months subscription to "COMFORT" the best Home Monthly now published, or if you send for more than one lot as above, "COMFORT" goes for one year. COLFORD PUB. CO., Box 893, Augusta, Maine.

FREE Ladies or Gents Size Hunting style. Box Case SOLID GOLD WATCH. The most elegant and artistic engraving ever put on a watch, and the handsome appearance and rich finish alone will attract attention wherever taken from your pocket. Sells at sight, and for that reason we take no risk in the following offer: This solid gold watch (not plated or gold filled but genuine solid gold) will be fitted with a jeweled sign or Waltham stem wind movement, fully warranted (remember this is no "cheap jeweled movement" but our genuine Elgin or Waltham make) that will always give you perfect time, besides enhancing the value of the watch in case you ever want to sell it. So many unreliable concerns offer bargains that prove otherwise after you have bought and paid for the goods that we will leave it for you to judge whether you can buy as good a watch as this for less than \$75.00 elsewhere. SPECIAL GOLD WATCH OFFER limited to stock on hand. Cut out this advertisement and we will send one of these elegant solid gold watches, ladies' or gents' size, stem wind and set by express C. O. D. if a bargain and you want it, pay the agent \$18.90 and charges. If no return to us at our expense. It costs you nothing to see it. WILLIAMS & CO., 125 South Halsted Street, Chicago, Ill.

REMNANTS FOR CRAZY PATCHWORK

SADIE'S SILKEN SHOWER OF SATIN SAMPLES

ART in needlework is on the advance. We know the ladies delight in odd pieces of silk and satin,—"CRAZY QUILT" making is VERY popular. We are sure we have a bargain that all ladies will now delight in. Bright, handsome, odd-shaped and pretty colored goods accumulate very fast at all NECKTIE FACTORIES; for years have been burdened and overrun with remnants of many RICH GOODS. We have thousands of pieces of silk and satin on hand which we are going to give you a big trade on. People at a distance have hard times getting the right assortment to put into sofa-pillows, quilts, etc., and we can help you out now. We are going to dispose of this immense lot RIGHT OFF. Our packages contain from 90 to 168 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get a lot introduced into every home; then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these pieces are carefully trimmed, and especially adapted to all sorts of fancy art, and needle work. Many ladies sell tidies, fancy pillows, etc., at a great price made from these remnants. Order one sample lot now for only 25c. It would cost many dollars bought at a store. GRAND OFFER: If you order our great assorted lot AT ONCE, we will give you absolutely FREE, five yards of elegant embroidery silk, all different bright colors. This silk is worth nearly the price we ask for the remnants; but we know if you order ONE lot we will sell many in your locality, so make this liberal offer. Three lots for 65c.; five for \$1.00. BEST WAY. We send one of the above complete assorted lots FREE to all who send 25 cents for 6 months subscription to "COMFORT" the best Home Monthly now published, or if you send for more than one lot as above, "COMFORT" goes for one year. COLFORD PUB. CO., Box 893, Augusta, Maine.

quilt, etc., and we can help you out now. We are going to dispose of this immense lot RIGHT OFF. Our packages contain from 90 to 168 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get a lot introduced into every home; then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these pieces are carefully trimmed, and especially adapted to all sorts of fancy art, and needle work. Many ladies sell tidies, fancy pillows, etc., at a great price made from these remnants. Order one sample lot now for only 25c. It would cost many dollars bought at a store. GRAND OFFER: If you order our great assorted lot AT ONCE, we will give you absolutely FREE, five yards of elegant embroidery silk, all different bright colors. This silk is worth nearly the price we ask for the remnants; but we know if you order ONE lot we will sell many in your locality, so make this liberal offer. Three lots for 65c.; five for \$1.00. BEST WAY. We send one of the above complete assorted lots FREE to all who send 25 cents for 6 months subscription to "COMFORT" the best Home Monthly now published, or if you send for more than one lot as above, "COMFORT" goes for one year. COLFORD PUB. CO., Box 893, Augusta, Maine.

\$250.00 GIVEN AWAY IN GOLD

Under the conditions given as follows. In the words "BLAND & CLEVER" the name of one of the best known ex-Presidents of the U.S., the same also being the name of a prominent City in the State of Ohio. In forming the name it is not necessary to use all of the letters contained in "Bland & Clever". To the first person sending in the correct name on or before January 30th, 1892, we will give \$25.00 in cash, to the second sending the correct name \$20.00, to the third \$15.00, to the fourth \$10.00, to the next five persons \$5.00 to each. To the last person sending in the correct name we will pay \$25.00, to the next to the last \$20.00, to the second from the last \$15.00, to the third from the last \$10.00, and to the next \$5.00, and to the next fifty persons (if there are so many) \$1.00 to each. With your answer send 25 cents in silver or stamps for a bottle of "STAR PILLS" the best Liver, Stomach, Bowel and Kidney Regulator ever used. They are made from barks, roots and herbs, very small, sugar coated, act gently yet promptly, no gripping, 50 doses in each bottle. No answer will be recorded unless pills are ordered as these cash presents are given simply to help introduce our wonderful medicine. Immediately after Jan. 31st a list of the names and addresses of the successful persons will be mailed to each person answering this adv. Satisfaction guaranteed or money will be refunded. As to our responsibility we refer to any bank or business firm in Chicago. This is the first time this adv. has appeared. Cut it out and write at once. Address INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL ASSO., 269 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

Our Household.

WE KNOW HIM WELL.

[This will make a good recitation.]

We know him well. He is a man
Built on the most stupendous plan,
Flushed with health and strong of limb.
A hero bold, a warrior grim,
To those who know him not he may be—
At home he's helpless as a baby.

He lets his tired little wife,
Who strangely loves him as her life,
Wait on him with devotion rare,
While, with a most complacent air
And perfect ease, before the blaze he
Lolls around—because he's lazy.

His wife, afraid to own her soul,
Chops the wood and lugs the coal,
Draws the water, shovels snow,
While he, a giant, sees her grow
More delicate and less admired,
Doing his work—because he's tired.

Shame on this semblance of a man,
Shame on the woman, too, who can,
So void of female spunk and sense,
Coddle a creature so immense
And good for nothing. Spanking, may be,
By real men might help the baby.

—H. C. Dodge, in *Detroit Free Press*.

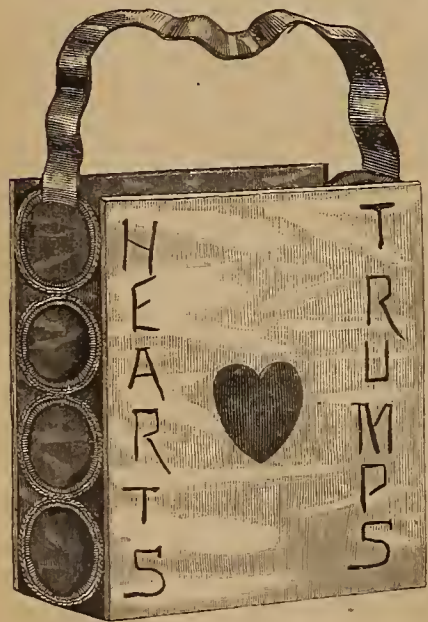
CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

SO MANY, in providing for different ones, seem to think it is hardest to provide for gentlemen; but if you would go into the gentlemen's furnishing stores, you would be hard to suit if you couldn't find there something very suitable, especially in the way of wearing apparel or personal adornment. I did not know they kept such a stock until I had occasion to look up something to please the young man's taste. If you fall short of everything else, you cannot please him more than with a stylish new cravat. Just now it is any color so it's red.

The most exquisite silk fobs for watches, with gold or silk mountings, or silver collar-buttons at forty cents apiece. Sleeve-buttons in white that look like they were covered with heavy, white pique. All sorts of beautiful underwear in silk or wool of the loveliest colors. Handkerchiefs of silk, in black with white borders or in solid colors. Shirts as high as four dollars and a half apiece, of very dainty combination.

Outside of wearing apparel or jewelry, the field is wide enough to steer clear of the fabled slippers. Books, writing materials, visiting cards with his name engraved, memorandum books, diaries or some paper or periodical for the year. A fountain pen, for one who writes much, is very acceptable.

Then, for the ladies there are many new things; among them, gold hair-pins, souvenir spoons and teacups, stick-pins with fancy heads. All sorts of books, address books, engagement books, correspondent's address books, lovely markers in silver or ivory on purple ribbons, for the prayer-book. Fancy pins with heads of



CASE FOR CARDS.

flowers, for pinning on a hat, a pair of nail scissors, perfumery and fine soaps in cases.

For housekeepers, fine table-linen, or an eider-down quilt and pillows, or a handsome spread. On some sale-days at our large stores one can get bargains in all these.

A very new thing is a "futurity album." Get a blank-book, and cut the cover three-cornered; cover this with plush or silk, and sew ribbons at the pointed ends to tie

it; then fold over the leaves to match the cover. In these write any nice little sentiment, seal it, and on the outside write when it shall be opened: "On New Years," "Your birthday," "When you are in trouble." Then attach to it an index, so that your friend can refer to the dates at the proper time. Such an one from a mother to her children would be much appreciated in after years, if she were called away before some of the dates arrived.

For a friend who sews a great deal, arrange six little boxes in a case. They can be had at any drug store, and the case can be silk-covered; or, they could be glued together and tied with a ribbon just the width of the boxes.

HAT-PIN CUSHION.—This is made of a Japanese doll, with a very long, narrow cushion attached, of yellow satin. The doll is got up in black, the cushion acting as a dress skirt.

CASE FOR CARDS.—Make of pasteboard a case a little larger than a pack of cards; cover the outside with pongee in natural color, the inside with a layer of cotton and crimson China silk. Sew over and over around the edge. Then take brass curtain-rings and crochet them around in single crochet with crimson saddler's silk, or buttonhole twist, as it is twisted tighter than purse-silk, and will not split. Cover enough rings to go around three sides, join the squares with them. Upon the front paint in vermilion, a heart; then in sepia make the letters down the sides. Any original design will be appropriate. Made larger they are very suitable for photographs.

SHOPPING-BAGS.—Nine by twelve inches when finished, is a good size. Make the outside of black rhadame, the inside of the bag below the shirring, of chamois-skin, above the shirring, of any other color except black. Varied trimmings are used, rings crocheted together, fancy wheels or very wide, ornamental passementerie, with ball-finished edges, is very durable and pretty. On the inside sew a little pocket on one side, to carry your door key, as it is hard to fish up from the bottom.

CHRISTIE IRVING.

HOME TOPICS.

DRESSMAKING AT HOME.—Whenever I must have a new dress I envy the gentlemen the ease with which they can go to a tailor, select the goods, leave their measure and have the finished suit sent home with no more trouble about it, except it be to pay the tailor. When a woman needs a dress, she must first decide upon the material and color, then spend a day, perhaps, finding the desired goods. If she takes it to a dressmaker, she must go once or twice more to have it fitted, and at last pay perhaps twice as much for the making as the material cost. I have been the best suited with dresses made at home, and where there are one or two daughters this can be easily done and a large item of expense saved.

There are several firms that manufacture reliable paper patterns, and one or more of them have an agent in all cities and towns of any considerable size. I have used Butterick's patterns for several years and always with good results. If you have no pattern agent near, send to Butterick Publishing Co., No. 9 West 13th St., New York, for a catalogue, enclosing twenty-five cents, and when you have selected the style, send the number of pattern you wish and your bust measure, together with the price of pattern, and you will soon receive the desired pattern.

Unless you have cut by a pattern before and know that it fits, it is safest to cut and fit the lining first. Pin the pattern to the cloth and cut, carefully, close to the edge of the pattern. A tracing wheel, which only cost fifteen or twenty cents, is a great help in cutting accurately by the pattern. After the lining is cut, baste it up, carefully observing the notches in the pattern, and try it on, making needful alterations, as far as possible, in the shoulder and under-arm seams. Some dressmakers try on the waist wrong side out and fit it in that way, but this is not wise, as there is nearly always a difference in the right and left shoulder and hip. Never fit a dress over a new corset, but one that has been worn long enough to be fitted to the figure.

After the lining is fitted, take out the basting and lay the pieces of lining on the goods so as to waste as little as possi-

ble, being careful to note the right and wrong sides and that no two pieces will be for the same side. Be careful, also, that the grain of the lining and outside goods are exactly together, and if the cloth is plaid or striped, see that the lines are straight, the two sides of the front match, and, in the back, that the stripes are perpendicular and the same colors come together, as near as may be, in the seams. I have seen some striped dresses entirely spoiled by carelessness in this respect. Baste each piece of the lining to the dress goods before you cut it out. After all is cut, baste the seams as fitted and try on again, after which stitch the seams close to the basting and then try on and fit the neck and arm's eye. Be careful not to make the dress too tight, but have it just snug enough to be smooth. All the seams on the inside of the bodice should be opened and the edges bound with the narrow silk binding which comes for the purpose. Be sure and get whalebones and not the covered steels, as they soon break and wear through. You can buy the whalebone casing by the yard in any color, and it is much less trouble than using bias pieces of the lining to cover the whalebones.

A VAPOR BATH.—One of the most efficient means of breaking a cold is a vapor bath. Have the patient sit in a cane-



HAT-PIN CUSHION.

seated chair, over the seat of which has been spread a wet towel. Put a pail or kettle of hot water under the chair, and wrap blankets snugly around the patient to the neck and over the chair, having them come to the floor so as to shut in all the steam. At short intervals put a hot stone or piece of brick or iron in the vessel of water to keep up the steam. Keep the patient in this bath from fifteen to thirty minutes, after which he should go directly to bed, keep warmly covered and drink half a pint of hot water every hour or two, unless very profuse perspiration ensues. A few hours of this treatment will usually break a cold if taken at the beginning. Stay in bed, if possible, until the cold is substantially cured, then sponge off in cool water, rub briskly and dress. Be careful of the diet, eating sparingly at first. So-called colds are often the result of indigestion as much as of exposure.

MAIDA McL.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

So now is come our joyful feast,
Let everyone be jolly
Each room with ivy leaves is dressed,
And every post with holly.

There are few mothers of middle age that have not again and again been made stronger and braver to endure the inevitable trials and sorrows of life, and whose wavering faith in the All-father's mercy and love has not been strengthened by the remembrance of the unselfish tenderness and love that surrounded us in childhood. The old home may have been small and unpretentious, but it was illumined and made beautiful by the purest love earth knows. How more and more distinct, as the years go by, do we recall events and days that were then precious above all others, and are now an oasis in memory's sounds.

There was our birthday anniversaries, our first real party and the day when an

air of mystery enveloped the entire household, but which at length gave way and we were told that a "good fairy had brought us a brother." There were Fourth of July and Sunday-school celebrations, Thanksgiving family reunions, and, best of all, the joyous Christmas festivities. There were years when we believed implicitly in Santa Claus, others when we vacillated between belief and unbelief, and then, when we no longer believed in a myth, but even more devoutly than ever in the wonderful love of father and mother.

Very likely our Christmas gifts were simple and inexpensive, but the home was gay with decorations and overflowing with Christmas cheer, good will and love. And now, knowing how much these beautiful memoirs have cheered and brightened our lives, are we as thoughtful and self-sacrificing for our children as our parents were for us? Are we seeking in every possible way to bind closer and still closer the chords of love which unite their hearts to home, and which will lengthen and lengthen, but never break? Or, are we overburdened with cares and work, and weary of economizing, of trying to adjust our pride to the possibilities of a lean purse, until our meaner self is uppermost and we think a cape overcoat for Fred and a fur-trimmed jacket for Mand are more essential than a house decked with evergreens and a gaily-trimmed Christmas tree? If so, let us turn over a new leaf this year and use a little old-fashioned wisdom. Let us, too, make a Christmas so full of joy and gladness, so precious in kind words and loving acts, that our children shall look back to it and be made happier and better and be led to emulate it in their own homes.

There is almost no limit to the different methods and materials used in making Christmas decorations, but nothing is so significant and beautiful as evergreens, either used alone or as a background for others. They who live in cities may find it impossible to have more than a tree with perhaps a branch of holly here and there, but if one lives in or near the country there is almost no limit to the materials that may be found. Especially is this so if one has remembered it during the summer and fall and gathered a store of grasses, grains, cat-tails, thistle pompons, milk-weed balls, autumn leaves, bitter-sweet berries and the beautiful, feathery wild clematis. Hemlock, pine and all varieties of evergreens can be utilized, but cedar and ground or running pine is the most beautiful. The latter can be gathered in long strings and is very useful for light work, such as draping picture-frames, chandeliers and curtains, but for wreaths and garlands it is not heavy enough to be effective. For this purpose take a rope as the center and tie overlapping sprigs of cedar (or other green) along it. If the garland is to be festooned flat against the wall, tie the green only on one side. If one chooses small clusters of mountain-ash, berries can be fastened among the green, and a garland festooned around the frieze of a dining-room was brightened with handsome red berries, which were, in fact, cranberries, each one strung on the center of a piece of fine wire, which was then doubled together, twisted and secured to the rope. Gold and silver tinsel, which can be bought for twenty or twenty-five cents a pound, can be effectively cut in the smallest possible bits and scattered among the greens with a brilliant effect.

No decorations are complete without one or more mottoes or legends over the mantels or doorway, and every year sees some new method of making them, though I doubt if any are more beautiful than where the letters are made of a double twist of wire with green tied on, as in wreaths. A thin board is usually covered with white muslin or turkey red and framed in green, and the letters fastened to this. The latter may be cut out of cardboard and covered with white, gilt or crimson paper, with tiny sprigs of green at effective points on the edge.

A beautiful and unique one was seen last year. On a background covered entirely with cedar sprigs, in large, quaint-shaped letters was the motto, "Blessed Are The Happiness-makers." The letters were cut from heavy cardboard and tacked to position before they were ornamented. They were first given a coat of warm glue, care being taken not to touch the green.

As soon as the glue was spread, each letter was carefully covered with coarse oatmeal and they were then allowed to dry until next day. The covering of meal was then thoroughly varnished, and when dry, painted with bright, gold paint.

A Christmas tree should be chosen with reference to the place it is to occupy, and should be securely fastened into a box or tub by nailing wood braces across the top of it. Bricks, stones or heavy pieces of wood should be packed around it to insure its standing firmly, and the box should then be covered on the outside with dark green cambric, over which is tacked green moss and lichens. Any old wood or ill-shaped branches should be carefully trimmed out, and now it is ready to be decorated.

The elaborateness and beauty of the latter are limited only by ones ingenuity and the time and means at his disposal. Indeed, so many and varied are they that I am at a loss to know which to mention first. If the tree is to be had in the evening, or by artificial light, there must surely be colored candles fastened here and there by their tiny hook-handled candlesticks, or by wire, and when this is the case, fewer brilliant decorations of other sorts are needed.

Stars cut from pasteboard and covered with gilt paper, and each ray tipped with a tiny gilt star, which can be found at any stationer's, or made by pasting two pieces of gilt paper together and cutting them out with a sharp knife, are handsome hung among the branches; but far more delicate and unique ones can be made of milliner's (covered) wire as the main foundation. After bending the five rays regularly, bring the wire two or three times across the center and fasten at the center; then with a darning-needle and coarse knitting-cotton fill in the rays in a sort of lace-work manner, and suspend in an earthen crock containing a strong solution of alum water. Or they are handsome made after the latter style, and varnished and gilded instead of being crystallized. Crescents can be made in the same manner.

The old-fashioned tarlatan bags for holding candy were gay and pretty, are easily made and cost but a trifle, but little baskets crocheted of coarse knitting-cotton and starched and dried in shape over a cup, spice-box or the like, and then painted with enamel paint or gold and suspended by ribbons, are not only handsome when filled with candy, but as souvenirs of the merry occasion. A quaint, beautiful one was shaped over an individual oatmeal dish, and a cover, made in two sections, was tied on at opposite points with ribbon bows. Other beautiful receptacles for confections are made by inserting the little, round Japanese baskets, that can be purchased for three and five cents, inside of a round, plain China silk bag, just deep enough to draw over and shirr easily at the top after being fringed to the depth of two inches. Holly berries or some other appropriate design can be painted on the outside. Bronze brocades, which come in all colors, same as bronze powders, at ten cents a package, can be used with brilliant effect. Yellow pine cones, first varnished and then immediately dusted over with these and then suspended by loops of tinsel, are very handsome. Acorns with the nuts gilded and the cups treated as above, are very neat when suspended in groups of three or five by baby ribbon of unequal lengths. Draw the two ends of ribbon through the cup and glue them, then glue the nut in place.

The old-fashioned strings of white popcorn have been superseded by the more delicate and handsome imitation of snow made from fine, white tissue-paper. This can be bought in boxes or made in the following manner: Fold a sheet of paper lengthwise in strips one and a quarter inches wide, and press with a sad-iron to keep in place. At regular intervals of half an inch make a cut reaching a little more than half across the strip; turn the strip and cut the other side in the same way, having the cuts come midway of those on the opposite side. When done, cut a narrow strip of paper off each side to separate them, carefully pull apart, and lightly shake each one and twine them in among the branches.

Strings of cranberries are often used,

but they are only pretty by day. Gold and silver fringe can be purchased, and is very ornamental. Everyone knows, I am sure, about balls of cotton and pop-corn, nuts tied up in baby ribbon, oranges, polished apples and cornucopias of confections.

The beauty of a tree is also greatly dependent upon the manner in which the gifts are arranged upon it. Don't have any homely packages, but do things for Christmas in a Christmasy way. Tissue-paper in bright colors, handsome boxes and baby ribbon is inexpensive; use it freely; it will not only add to the beauty of your tree, but to the pleasure of the recipients. When the gifts are all nicely arranged, sprinkle frost powder upon the branches of tree in a liberal manner and your work is complete.

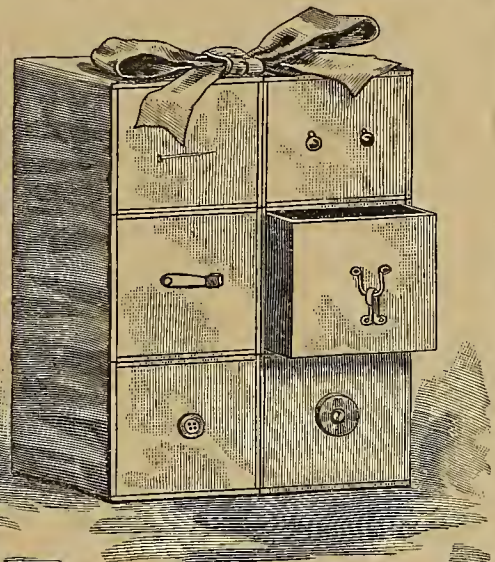
KATHERINE B. JOHNSON.

CHRISTMAS SENSE AND NONSENSE.

Several years ago a certain lady, after looking at a collection of bags, cushions, gew-gaws and jimcracks, said: "I don't thank my friends for giving me trash." Her companion replied: "Oh, it is nice to be remembered."

Undoubtedly all readers will place themselves in class with either one or the other of these ladies. It requires courage to be with the one who frankly said she did not care for Christmas trash; but, if every person will but speak the truth, there will be a sufficiently large company to keep each other in countenance.

There are some embarrassments connected with the custom. If one receives a gift, there is an expectation of return. Once having been a recipient, there is supposed to be an obligation to repeat the favor year after year. Many ladies begin to save money and spend time in July, so that the next December they may have fifty gifts ready for friends. These ladies



A HANDY CASE.

expect a gift from each of the fifty. Finally, the great exchange takes place, to the dissatisfaction of all. There are bits of painted satin to be put away (too delicate for use), there are tidies and sachets to needlessly fill up the parlor, and there is an unexpressed or quite outspoken criticism of the poor taste used in the selection of objects. Is the foregoing an unfair view of our Christmas customs?

Then there is the other side, the wishing to be remembered, the wish to make an expression of remembrance. The sentiment is sweet and commendable. But, here again, speaking for herself, the writer's practical theories assert themselves with what may be considered harshness. Even those tokens of good will ought to have an intrinsic value; not, perhaps, founded on their expensiveness, but on the fitness with which they are chosen.

When a girl said that she was always glad when Christmas brought her handkerchiefs, her statement roused a storm of ridicule. "A handkerchief! What a prosaic gift!" But Othello gave a "kerchief to Desdemona." Therefore, it is forever placed within the list of gifts which are poetical.

Mrs. Browning said of women's gifts: We sew, sew, prick our fingers, dull our sight; Producing what? A pair of slippers, sir, To put on when you're weary; or a stool To tumble over and vex you; Or else, at best, a cushion, where you can Sleep, and dream of something we are not.

You see that she has hit off the favorite gifts which devoted women select for men; slippers, footstools, cushions. There is nothing better, and if, as she says, they

received with scant gratitude, the prospect is discouraging. Perhaps a woman from a woman would receive better appreciation. Imagine yourself the recipient of a pair of those crocheted slippers, with soles on which the wool is piled half an inch thick! You put them on, and sit by your grate fire after a busy, vexatious day. Certainly, as you look down at the pretty ribbons which decorate your toes, you reflect on the sweets of friendship and the propriety of slippers as a Christmas gift.

A cushion, a pillow is another always acceptable present; one that is soft, one that has a good smell; one that is covered with a pretty, not too good, but just good enough material.

A curtain is another always useful thing. It will do to hang before a bookcase, at a door or before a window.

A box never comes amiss. Cover it with plush and decorate it with fancy nail-work. Merely stain the wood and carve it a little. Have the inside neat and sweet-smelling.

But to again be practical, why "sew, prick your fingers, dull your sight," when you can buy so many articles that are the perfection of propriety? Nothing is a nicer gift than a pair of gloves. The best kind costs no more than the materials which go to make up the elaborate embroideries, which, in addition, require

manual labor and expenditure of time. Another thing which always rejoices a housekeeper, is a beautiful bit of glass or china.

If you give a friend a box of stationery, you will certainly supply a want, and you can, at the same time, administer to her esthetic faculties.

But no more suggestions, my dear friends. You will receive enough from other persons, and my hearty wish is, that in all your giving and receiving of Christmas gifts, there may be good will, good taste and genuine pleasure.

KATE KAUFFMAN.

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This Ladies' Solid French Dongola Kid Button Boot sent prepaid anywhere in the U. S. on receipt of Cash, Money-order or Postal-note for \$1.50. Equals every way the Boots sold in all retail stores for \$2.50. We make this boot ourselves, therefore we guarantee the fit, style and wear, and if any one is not satisfied, we will refund their money or send another pair.

Common Sense and Opera Toe, widths C, D, and E, sizes 1 1/2 to 8, in half sizes. Send your size, we will fit you. We pay expressage.

Dexter Shoe Co., 299 Devonshire Street, Boston, Mass.

To Dexter Shoe Co.—I received the shoes yesterday, and must say that I am more than pleased with them. My wife says they are a perfect fit. W. F. BOLDUS, Old Mines, Mo.

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HARPER & BROTHERS, Franklin Square, New York.

Our Household.

NEW WAYS OF HAVING CHRISTMAS.

I HAVE spent Christmas the last three years with the Darling family, and each time they have had an original way of giving the presents. The family is rather a large one, and a number of friends and relatives join with them in the festivities of Christmas eve, so that there are a great many gifts to be distributed.

Christmas trees, though always beautiful, become monotonous, so one year they had a bazaar. The presents were not wrapped up, but were numbered by one person and then arranged in the parlor as attractively as possible. Bright ribbons stretched across the bay-window were hung with laces, tidies, mats, pretty handkerchiefs and fancy aprons, while a string of silver knives and forks jingled like sleigh-bells. Pretty articles were pinned on the chandelier, and the tables and piano were covered with books, games, toys, vases and china. Oranges and candies were temptingly arranged in glass dishes.

When all was in order a lively march was played, while the master of ceremonies brought in the impatient company to admire the really beautiful bazaar. All enjoyed looking at the presents, and much fun was caused by guessing to whom they belonged. Finally the list of names and numbers were read, each one taking all the articles that bore his number. Many were the surprises—the smart ones finding as usual that they had been mistaken in their surmises. Every gift was soon claimed except the set of knives and forks, which still sent forth their silver jingle, as they were numbered one hundred and fifty, and no one had that lucky number. After giving several hints in vain, the master of ceremonies was obliged to say, "Mrs. Darling, since your number is one hundred and that of your husband fifty, surely they belong to you jointly, for are you two not one? You are the better, that is the larger half, you see," he continued amid shouts of laughter.

At another time, they devised an entirely different plan. Each present was securely wrapped and marked with the name of the one for whom it was intended; then a number of them were made into a large bundle. As there chanced to be sixteen persons present, sixteen of these large packages were made and placed on the table. Each one was then asked to select a bundle, though perfectly ignorant of its contents. Not until they had done that was the plan fully disclosed; package number one was opened by the one who held it, the gifts it contained being given to the persons whose names they bore. As package after package was opened, all were eager to find whether they had anything in it or not.

But by far the most enjoyable plan was used last year. The things were hidden in the parlor and dining-room in every place imaginable and in some not imaginable! Behind curtains and pictures, under the carpet, back of the books in the bookcase, tied under tables, fastened over doors, in the bird-cage and the coal-hod—it was marvelous how many hidden places those young people found (for even the gray-haired are young at Christmas-time).

It was very funny to see Papa Darling down on hands and knees looking under a cupboard where were a handsome pair of slippers. The warnings of "hot" and "cold" had to be used many times before Louise found the crimson sash she had long been coveting; it was under the piano-cover.

A pretty cheese-cloth comfort, so large it could not be hidden, was made to represent an immense doll, a white cloth being tied over the upper part, and eyes, mouth and nose made with charcoal. With screams of laughter, it was walked up to Mrs. Whitney and introduced as a young lady whom they hoped would give her much "comfort."—*Wide Awake.*

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 220 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

SAUSAGES AND HEADCHEESE.

Almost every family in the country has a rule of its own for sausage meat, and the tastes of people differ considerably as to the proportion of fat and lean to be used, the amount in different rules varying from one fourth to one half fat. It is well to make a test in this matter, the medium of one third fat to two thirds lean probably suiting the majority of palates best. While it is the universal practice of country housekeepers to prepare their own sausage meat, this is seldom done in the city, though considerable in money and quality may be saved thereby. The best pork for this purpose sells at nearly half the price of prepared sausage meat. A good meat-chopper is almost essential, not only to the preparation of sausage meat, but of Hamburg steaks and other chopped dainties made of raw meat. Cooked meat for croquettes or hashes may be ground in such a machine. It is not positively necessary, however, to have a meat-chopper if the chopping-knife is kept keenly sharp. For family use alone it is not a wise plan, when the meat is purchased from the market, to put up more than five or six pounds at a time, but where people slaughter their own pork, it is necessary to put up a large quantity, if only to utilize the meat on hand. A rule which has proved exceedingly satisfactory when a small quantity is put up, calls for four pounds of meat, two thirds lean and one third fat, two tablespoonfuls of salt, one and one half tablespoonfuls of black pepper, measured scant and even, four tablespoonfuls of powdered sage leaves, half a teaspoonful of cloves and half a teaspoonful of allspice. Mix fat and lean together and add the seasoning, stirring together with the hands so that the mass is thoroughly mixed. Lay this in a pan, and if you are not going to use it during the week, throw a little melted lard over it.

Make the meat into cakes with the hand and fry them till brown on both sides. They should not be over an inch thick—rather less than more. It is a great mistake to cook sausages till they are hard and dry. At the same time it is essential that all pork should be thoroughly cooked, for otherwise it cannot be considered beyond suspicion. An excellent way of cooking sausages is to dip them in yolk of egg and then in fine bread crumbs and immerse them in boiling hot lard. Cook them in ten minutes. Or, the sausage meat may be made into cakes in this way: Breaded without egg and baked in a hot oven, turning the pan they are in, as they brown, from one portion of the oven to the other.

A good rule for veal sausage contains two pounds of lean veal, a pound and a quarter of fat pork, one ounce and a quarter of salt, half an ounce of pepper, two ounces of sage, half an ounce of summer savory and a teaspoonful of powdered mace. When wanted for the table, fry the sausages in cakes five minutes on each side in hot butter.

The rule for headcheese calls for a pig's feet and head with the ears, enough meat in all to weigh seven pounds when done. Put these in cold water after they are thoroughly cleaned, and boil until the meat is ready to drop from the bone. Then drain the head and feet, remove the bones and chop or grind it fine while it is still hot. Add two tablespoonfuls of salt, a teaspoonful of black pepper, half a teaspoonful of cayenne pepper, the same of mace, and a small onion minced fine. Mix all these seasonings in the hot meat, tie it in a bag and put it in a press. When it is quite cold it can be used, but it is better to keep twenty-four hours.—*New York Tribune.*

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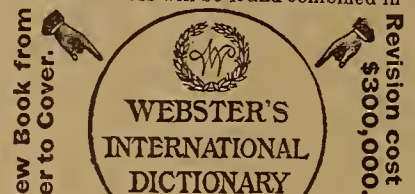
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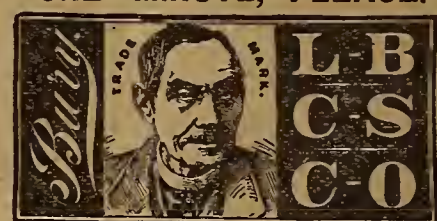
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Queries.

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Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the querist should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Horse-flies.—F. G. S., S. Shovel Mt., Tex. The large, black horse-fly (*Tabanus atratus*) and its allied species spend the larval period of their life in moist earth. The larvae are sub-aquatic and carnivorous.

Green Fly on Turnips.—A. L., Montagne, Mich., writes: "Can you tell me a remedy for the small, green insects that infest my rutabaga tops, and those of my neighbors?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Spray or sprinkle the rutabagas with kerosene emulsion (recipe frequently given in our columns), or strong tobacco water, or mulch them with tobacco stems. Spraying with a strong solution of kailut or muriate of potash will also kill the insects.

Onion Queries.—Mrs. C. C. H., Berlin, Ky., writes: "My onions—Pristetaker, White Globe, Spanish King and Silver King—made almost one half scallions, some of the stalks being five inches around and not cured yet. What is the matter with them? Would it do to sow onion seed in boxes this month to set out in the spring, instead of raising the plants in a hotbed?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Sow seed early, and set good plants just as soon as the ground and weather will permit. Poor plants, set late, are liable to produce scallions. It may be possible to winter little onion plants in flats, and thus have them ready for spring setting, but this is a matter for experiment rather than for general practice. Perhaps you can succeed in wintering plants from seed sown late in fall right in open ground.

Barren Squash-vines.—F. L., Central Park, Montana, writes: "What is the trouble with my squash-vines? They grow thrifty and bloom well, but that is the end of it. The blossoms drop off and we get no squashes. How can we remedy this?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—It is not easy to account for this. Perhaps the vines were planted too close together and grew too rank. In that case, give more space hereafter, and pinch out the main vines. Perhaps you have no insects in your vicinity—such as bees, bumble bees or striped cucumber-beetle, etc.—to fertilize the blossoms. In that case, keep some bees, or fertilize the fruit blossoms by gathering some pollen from the male flowers of another plant, with a camel's-hair brush, or in some other way, and dust upon the pistils of the fruit blossoms.

Potato Queries.—B. C. B., Water Mills (Long Island), N. Y., writes: "I intend to plant five acres of potatoes next year. Will half a ton of kainit per acre rot the seed? I am going to plant whole small potatoes. If I continue to do so year after year will the potatoes run out? How long is it safe to plant such seed? Which gives the better yield, a small potato or one of marketable size? A whole potato or a three-eye piece?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—If you need potash in the soil you can use half a ton to the acre without fear of injuring the crop, provided you apply it broadcast in fall or winter before. I can see no reason for applying it in the hill or drill. If you continue to plant cuttings from year to year it can hardly do otherwise than result in the degeneration of your seed. I would never plant cuttings more than once. With potatoes as well as with other crops, we should raise and use pedigree seed. It will then not do much harm to use the refuse of the crop for seed once, but seed for the next crop should not be sown from the crop thus grown. A large tuber planted whole invariably gives a larger yield than a smaller tuber, and this a larger yield than a three-eye piece. Sometimes the large seed, however, produce many small tubers. The question only is whether it pays to use large, whole tubers. In my experiments with some varieties it did pay, decidedly. But when seed is high, or with some varieties, it may not be profitable to be so lavish in the use of seed. The new Freeman, for instance, seems to do better from cut pieces. I would not have the rows so close as you propose (two and one half feet). Three feet is near enough for the rows, and pieces can be placed from twelve to eighteen inches apart, according to vigor of variety.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers, Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the querist should enclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 35 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

Complaint about Pigs.—E. O., Sinclairville, N. Y., writes: "I have five fall pigs about two months old, all of which have the piles. Could you inform me what to do for them?"

ANSWER:—What you complain of is probably a partial prolapsus of the rectum, caused by constipation and a lax condition of the sphincter. Give soft food, cleanse the prolapsed part of the rectum, and by careful manipulation effect a reposition. Wash it with carbolized water or a one and one half per cent solution of carbolic acid.

Habitual Abortion.—M. A. F., Dubois, Ill., writes: "I have a mare eight or nine years old, and she loses her foal every year; in fact, she has not foaled but one live colt. She is my huggy horse and I do not drive hard. I do not let her work hard and do not let her be used for riding. As she is all I have I am compelled to use her. I have seen medicines in advertisements that they claim will cure her, but I am a little afraid of patent medicines. Please tell me if I can do anything for her."

ANSWER:—I cannot give you a remedy for habitual abortion. The best you can do is not to breed the animal again, and you may have a good buggy horse for several years to come.

Enlarged Hock-joint.—W. C. G., Spotsville, Ky., writes: "I have a fine colt that got its hind leg fastened on a barbed-wire fence three months ago, cutting the inside of the hock-joint. The sore healed, but left the joint enlarged. Is there any way to remove the lump without injuring the joint?"

ANSWER:—You may try iodine preparations; for instance, an ointment of iodine of potassa, 1 to 8 or 12, to be applied once a day. Still, success will be somewhat doubtful.

A Mangy Cat.—W. J. H., Fort Wayne, Ind., writes: "Our cat has been of late troubled with a dry scab covering her head and parts of neck, causing her continued scratching, often tearing her skin through irritation. What can I do to cure her?"

ANSWER:—Mange in cats is not easily cured, because all applications that may be made will be licked off, and as the applications necessarily must be poisonous to kill the Sarcophages, which are smaller than on almost any other animal, it is better to get a new cat; because if not the mange, very likely the treatment necessary will take off the cat, and if not treated, the mange, sooner or later, will become fatal.

Ear Fistules.—G. W., Mandaville, Mo., writes: "I have a mare colt born in May last, which has some sort of a gathering in both of her ears. I lanced the sack, but it soon grew up, and I have, for some time, just pressed the sack with my thumb and finger, when a teaspoonful of white matter is expelled, not mixed with blood, and with no offensive smell. Some of my neighbors say it is distemper. The colt is quite lively and growing, and has been weaned about six weeks. Can you tell me what is the matter and what to do for it?"

ANSWER:—Let a surgeon carefully probe the fistulous openings to ascertain direction and extent, also whether a so-called ear-tooth is at the bottom. If the latter is the case, the ear tooth or teeth must be extracted. If there is none, a stick of lunar caustic may be inserted into each fistulous opening and be pushed down to the bottom. If an ear-tooth is extracted, some caustic, also, has to be applied afterwards.

Probably Actinomyces.—R. G., Socorro, New Mexico, writes: "I have a two-year-old Holstein bull that has a lump on his face about half way between his eye and the end of his nose. It is about the size of a man's fist, and is hard and firm like a bone. It has been growing for about three months. In the morning the nostril on the side of the lump has a starchy discharge. He is in good flesh; has had good pasture this last summer. Can it be removed or cured?"

ANSWER:—What you describe is probably actinomyces, which, if it has its seat in the bones and fistulous openings in the nasal cavity, must be considered incurable.

Wood Eaters.—L. W. F., Temple, N. H., writes: "I have an old horse that eats plue wood in his manger. He does not eat hard wood much. He does not crib, but eats wood and swallows it. Would bone-meal do him good? He is a large eater."

H. M., Elizabeth, Me., writes: "I have a horse which is inclined to eat her crib and everything she can reach. Please tell me what makes her do that."

ANSWER:—Feed more hay; feed whole ears of corn (with the cob); give frequently a pinch of salt, and freely exercise the animals, so that the latter may have no time to spare to practice their bad habits.

Chronic Diarrhea.—G. B., Healdsburg, Cal., writes: "Will you kindly inform me how to cure a colt, eighteen months old, of the scours, to which he has been subject for the last six months? It was first started through eating green apples."

ANSWER:—Feed good, sweet hay and good, sound oats. Tonics in moderate doses, such as Gentiana root, very small doses of nuxvomica, powdered oak bark with some bicarbonate of soda, or even small doses of rhubarb may prove to be useful. A good dietetic treatment, however, is the main thing.

Ringbone—Milk Fistule.—L. E. M., Boone, Neb., writes: "Can a ringbone on a horse's hoof be cured? If so, how?—I have a valuable cow that crawled through a barbed wire fence, cutting one teat into the milk canal. It healed up and left a hole in the side of the teat about the size of the opening in the end of the teat. The milk leaks out of the hole. How can it be made to heal up? The teats are large."

ANSWER:—As to ringbone, I refer you to FARM AND FIRESIDE of November 15.—In regard to the milk fistule, you may, immediately after milking, touch the fistulous opening with a stick of lunar caustic, and you will very likely effect a healing.

Tore Her Foot.—Mrs. J. H. L., White Hall, Ill., writes: "I have a mare that in some way got her left fore foot hurt just above the hoof. It was done the first week of August. She bled a great deal at the time. I sent for a man who treats horses. He tried to sew it up, but the stitches would not hold, as her walking would cause them to give. He afterwards cut the piece off; it was nearly torn off. He then took her home with him, kept her three weeks, and she got better. I brought her home. It has filled out where the piece was torn off, but does not heal above the hoof. The back part of her foot is not one bit lame; it is not swollen any. I thought it had pruned flesh in it, and put on burnt alum. I want to know what I shall do with it. I keep it bound up loosely, to keep the dust and cold out of it. We think she got her foot caught on a barbed wire in pawing, and in drawing her foot back, cut it, as it was done while in pasture. We found her soon after it was done."

ANSWER:—Apply iodoform twice a day; keep the sore clean and protected by covering it with absorbent cotton and keeping it bandaged with a clean bandage.

Periodical Ophthalmia.—E. A. J., Ham-mouton, N. J., writes: "Last June I bought a five-year-old mare just brought in from the West. Soon after I noticed a whitish, circular film on the lower part of the eye, which spread until the whole eye was covered. Then it gradually disappeared. All the while the film was there, there was a watery discharge. Now the eye is totally blind. It looks as though there was a hole in the center. To a casual observer nothing would be noticed. The other eye has begun to show indications of the same. What caused it and what can I do? It first showed on the lower part a thick white, but as it spread over, it looked thin and smoky."

ANSWER:—It seems that you have been taken in, for there can be no doubt that the mare in question suffers from periodical ophthalmia, and it is only a question of time when the animal will be blind in both eyes. You may be able to somewhat retard that termination, and to preserve the looks of the eye at present affected, by applying occasionally a drop or two of an atropia solution between the eyelids of the affected eye. Do not breed the mare, because the predisposition is hereditary.

Garget.—F. G. M., Dumbarton, Va., writes a lengthy letter, in which he describes a case of garget in a cow; tells what external applications he has made without avail, and asks whether or not he has done right, and what more he ought to do.

ANSWER:—Garget cannot be cured by external applications. First, the cause must be removed; and as the immediate cause consists in the fermenting and coagulating milk, the latter must be removed and not allowed to accumulate as long as any fermentation and coagulation is going on. Hence, the treatment consists, above all, in frequent and thorough milking. If the cow kicks, she must be

secured in such a way that she cannot kick. A cow affected with garget should be milked every two hours, and the milking should be done by a good milker.

May be Farcy.—H. L. S., Steele, N. D., writes: "I have a two-year-old horse colt. Last spring after I had turned him in the herd I found he had a large leg. His left hind leg was swollen above the pastern, on the inside, about half way to the hock-joint. The hock-joint was swelled and looked like a spavin, only it was too high on the joint. Higher up on the inside of the leg were about a dozen small lumps the size of a half dollar, and pointed; they felt hard and loose under the skin. They broke, and a thick, mattery substance ran. I had several men look at it, and one pronounced it button farcy. Is there anything of the kind? If so, is it contagious?"

ANSWER:—Your description points toward farcy or external glanders. Therefore it will be best for you to notify the proper authorities and ask them to send the state veterinarian, if there is one in North Dakota, to examine your animal.

Mange.—A. B. E., Brownlee, Neb., writes: "What is the matter with my cattle? They have some kind of itch. It starts at the root of the tail and spreads, the hair coming off, leaving a very rough and scabby skin. If they get to a wire fence they seem to be crazy, and scratch themselves all up, until they are a bleeding sore. It is something very different from what we call the barn-yard itch."

ANSWER:—Your cattle, it seems, have mange. Prepare a good tobacco decoction; for every three gallons of water use at least one pound of strong tobacco, and give your cattle a thorough wash. At the same time thoroughly cleanse the stable, cattle-yard, etc. If this is not done, the cattle, notwithstanding having been washed, will soon become reinfested. Woodwork especially should be cleansed with boiling-hot water. Wash your cattle the second time on the sixth day. If the washing is well done each time, a third wash may not be necessary.

A Swelled Leg.—B. B., Freehold, N. Y., writes: "I have an eight-year-old horse that I used all the forepart of the season. One evening in August he went in the stall all right, but in the morning he was as stiff as a sawhorse, and I could not get him out of the stall. I covered him warm and did all I could for him, but he ran down until he was as poor as poor could be. His left hind leg swelled up about one half larger than the natural size, and it stays so yet. I use him some, and the swelling will go down some, but the next morning it will be swelled again and he will favor it a little for a few rods. He does not do well and does not feel good. He does not lie down in the stable, but will do so when he has a chance, on the manure and straw in the yard."

ANSWER:—Your description is too vague to enable me to tell you what ailed your horse in the first place. It may have been founder (laminitis) or even tetanus. As to the swelling you complain of, I would advise you to exercise the animal during the day and to apply bandages of woolen flannel during the night. For further information, consult the numerous answers given to similar inquiries in these columns.

Either Founder or Navicular Disease.—M. R., Tionesta, Pa., writes: "I have a mare that is affected in the front feet. About six or seven months ago, immediately after getting up in the morning, she would set her right foot out in front of the other, resting on the toe, with fetlock and knee flexed. At the present time both feet are affected, and when she is aroused in the morning there seems to be an intense pain in her feet, sometimes accompanied by a slight fever, particularly around the heel and frog. If she is led about, she will take short steps and the toes of her feet will first strike the ground, but if left standing in the stable half an hour or so there will apparently be no sign of any disease. There is no lameness, whether she is worked or not, except in the morning after she gets up. There is no deficiency (sweaty) in the muscles of the shoulder, no contraction of the hoof, and the frog appears to be sound, unless it is bruised, which it might be, as she has had no shoes on since last spring. The soles of her feet are dry and chalk-like, so that it may easily be scraped away."

ANSWER:—Your description leaves me in doubt whether your mare suffers from founder (laminitis) or from navicular disease. The prognosis in the latter is not good. You may, for a few days, poultice both feet with a powdered flaxseed poultice and see what effect it will have. The poultices, of course, must be renewed two or three times a day, and come in contact only with the soles of the hoof. Before you apply them, it will be well to pare away the dead horn of the soles. If the effect is not satisfactory, have the animal examined, and, according to circumstances, treated by a competent veterinarian.

Colic.—C. M. D., Marietta, Ohio, writes: "Several days ago one of my horses, which had appeared to be as well as usual, went directly to his stall when unhitched, not stopping for water as he always did before. As soon as his harness was taken off, he began rubbing against the side of the stall, and then lay down with his feet doubled under him and switched his tail. After a short time he got up again and would look around at his right side occasionally. Soon he lay down again, this time stretching out flat, with legs straightened, and he soon commenced to groan and roll and toss about and switch his tail. After lying down and getting up the third time, he voided his urine and at once commenced eating and has been well since. The horse had nothing to eat or drink for about four hours before taken sick, so I hardly thought it could be colic; yet, rubbing his belly seemed to give relief. Was the trouble with the urine? What ought one to do in such a case? The horse is out of condition. The hair is not as sleek as usual. He is, as some would say, 'hide bound.' What is the proper treatment? Are the so-called condition powders in the market of value in such

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cases? Have been feeding clean, bright timothy hay, with bran and corn, or oil-cake meal, for a grain ration."

ANSWER:—Your horse had an attack of colic. If another attack occurs, call in a good veterinarian and leave the treatment to him. It is impossible to prescribe for colic unless all conditions and influences acting are known. Colic is not a distinct disease, but a term employed to cover a multitude of very painful morbid processes, which have their seat in the intestinal canal, and in which the pain is manifested by violent actions. Good, sound food, but especially good, bright hay, composed of sweet grasses and good, sound oats, constitute the best condition powders. Those sold in the drug stores can do no good. They are brought into the market because somebody wants to make a living and somebody else wants to be fooled.

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A POPULAR FAMILY.

JENNIE: "How is it, Kate, that you always seem to 'catch on' to the last new thing? Do what I may, you always seem to get ahead of me."

KATE: "I don't know; I certainly do not make any exertion in that direction."

JENNIE: "Well, during the last few months, for example, you have taken up painting,



without any teacher; you came to the rescue when Miss Lafarge deserted her Delsarte class so suddenly, and certainly we are all improving in grace under your instruction; I heard you telling Tommy Eames last evening how his club made mistakes in playing baseball; you seem to be up on all the latest 'fads,' and know just what to do under all circumstances; you entertain beautifully; and in the last month you have improved so in health, owing, you tell me, to your physical culture exercises. Where do you get all of your information from in this little out-of-the-way place?—for you never go to the city."

KATE: "Why, Jennie, you will make me vain. I have only one source of information, but it is surprising how it meets all wants. I very seldom hear of anything new but what the next few days bring me full information on the subject. Magic? No! Magazine! And a great treasure it is to us all, for it really furnishes the reading for the whole household: father has given up his magazine that he has taken for years, as he says this one gives more and better information on the subjects of the day; and mother says that it is that that makes her such a famous housekeeper. In fact, we all agree that it is the only really FAMILY magazine published, as we have sent for samples of all of them, and find that one is all for men, another all for women, and another for children only, while this one suits every one of us; so we only need to take one instead of several, and that is where the economy comes in, for it is only \$2.00 a year. Perhaps you think I am too lavish in my praise; but I will let you see ours, or, better still, send 10 cents to the publisher, W. Jennings Demorest, 15 East 14th Street, New York, for a sample copy, and I shall always consider that I have done you a great favor; and may be you will be enticed out, as you say we have the reputation of being the best informed family in town. If that be so, it is Demorest's Family Magazine that does it."

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Our Miscellany.

"KINDNESS IS THE WORD."

WHAT IS GOOD?

"What is the real good?"
I ask, in musing mood.

"Order," said the law court;
"Knowledge," said the school;
"Truth," said the wise man;
"Pleasure," said the fool;
"Love," said the maiden;
"Beauty," said the page;
"Freedom," said the dreamer;
"Home," said the sage;
"Fame," said the soldier;
"Equity," said the seer.

Spake my heart full sadly:
"The answer is not here."

Then withlu my bosom
Softly this I heard:
"Each heart holds the secret;
"Kindness' is the word."

—John Boyle O'Reilly.

HERESY is inability to believe with less thoughtful persons.

WOMEN seldom mean the pleasant things they say to women or the unpleasant things they say to men.

The roses of pleasure seldom last long enough to adorn the brow of him who plucks them, and they are the only roses which do not return their sweetness after they have lost their beauty.

COLONEL INGERSOLL, in his recent address before the New York State Bar Association, said: "As long as children are raised in tenement and gutter, the prisons will be full; the gulf between the rich and poor will grow wider. One will depend on cunning, the other on force. It is a great question whether those who live in luxury can afford to allow others to exist in want. The value of property depends, not on the prosperity of the few, but on the prosperity of a very large majority. Life and property must be secure, or that subtle thing called 'value' takes its leave. The poverty of the many is a perpetual menace. If we expect a prosperous and peaceful country, the citizens must have homes. The more homes the more patriots, the more virtue, the more security for all that gives worth to life. The more real education the less crime, and the more homes the fewer prisons."

SPRINGS.

It is an almost universal notion that a spring which issues from the earth of its own accord, and which generally looks crystal clear, must be pure; but, though the water has been filtered by passing down through a stratum of earth, it must be remembered that there are two hundred and fifty times as much carbonic acid in the soil as there is in the air, and that the water becomes aerated with it, and that this aids in dissolving various substances, and consequently springs come to have a great variety of chemical constituents in widely varying amounts. The strata through which water passes determine its purity or impurity, and the same want of sanitary care that would contaminate a well, will just as surely pollute a spring. Typhoid fever has been directly traced to contaminated springs.

SEE THINGS.

In one of his essays on self-culture, Professor John Stuart Blackie gives the following admirable advice concerning books and reading:

"As there are persons who seem to walk through life with their eyes open, seeing nothing, so there are others who read through books, and perhaps even cram themselves with facts, without carrying away any living pictures of significant story which might arouse the fancy in an hour of leisure, or gird them with endurance in a moment of difficulty. Ask yourself, therefore, always, when you have read a chapter of any notable book, not what you saw printed on a gray page, but what you see pictured in the glowing gallery of your imagination. Have your fancy always vivid and full of body and color. Count yourself not to know a fact when you know that it took place, but then only when you see it as it did take place."

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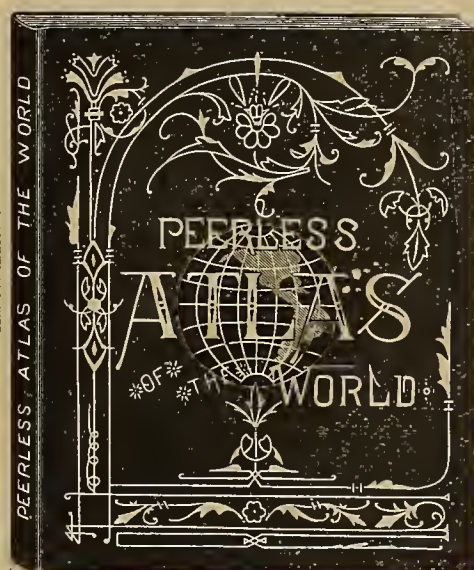
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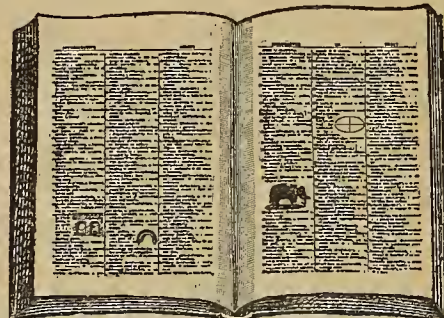
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LIBERTIES WITH THE POETS.

ANTHONY AND CLEOPATRA.
"I am dyeing, Egypt, dyeing!"
Thus spoke Anthony, aghast.
Answered Cleopatra, sighing,
"Are you sure the color's fast?"

EXCELSIOR!

"Try not the pass," the old man said;
"The time to use it long has fled.
You'd better pay your way inside,"
But with a sneer the youth replied:
"Come off!"

MOTHER GOOSE.

Ha, pretty maiden, where have you been?
I've been to London to see the queen.
Ho, pretty maiden, what did you do?
I collared a duke, sir, and married him, too.

AN AUTUMN DAY.

Oh, day, so cool, so calm, so bright—
Thy very joy my spirit grieves.
I've got to walk abroad till night,
To help my love pick autumn leaves.
—New York Herald.

A FATHER'S JOY.

The orient's wealth,
The diamond's gleam,
The clink of gold,
Are but a dream.

The lust for power,
The greed for gain,
Ambition's thirst,
All, are vain.

Who holds but these
Can never feel
The joyful thrills
That o'er me steal.

When Sol has closed
His hlinging lids,
And I play bear
With my two kids.

—Bob Wallace, in Puck.

WHERE THE PAIN CAME IN.

It was not her refusal that so hurt,
But the way she looked me through and
through,
And in a manner dignified and curt,
Ejaculated "You?"

—Life.

ITS REDEEMING FEATURE.

ELDER GOODMAN'S dislike of tobacco amounted to a positive aversion. He detested it in every form; but most of all he hated the cigarette. He would have no one in his employ, and, as far as he could, he would have no one in his presence who ever smoked one.

In season and out of season—if such a thing is possible—he inveighed against the cigarette, and dilated on its deadly work. His repugnance to the thing itself grew in time to include those who used it, until he came to look upon every cigarette-smoker with more or less suspicion.

He was present at an anti-tobacco meeting one night, when the speaker in due turn took up the cigarette.

"Friends," he exclaimed, "this innocent-looking little roll of tobacco is worse than war or pestilence. It is carrying thousands and thousands of our young men every year to the grave."

"Well," exclaimed the elder from the rear of the house, to the great surprise of every one present, "it has one good feature."

"Pray what is that, brother?" asked the astonished speaker.

"It takes only those that we can spare the best."

TURN ABOUT.

Sceptical Patient (to Faith Doctor)—"How do you propose to cure this pain in my chest, doctor?"

Faith Doctor—"I shall pass my hands over your chest a few times, then tell you the pain is gone, and it will be gone."

Patient—"Ah, yes. Will you dine with me, doctor? You can perform the cure afterward."

Doctor—"With pleasure."

Patient—"Well, take this loaf of bread, and rub it on your stomach a few times and say you have had your dinner, and you will have had it. If the experiment is a success we will go on with the chest cure."—Puck.

AT THE NEWSBOY'S MISSION SCHOOL.

Teacher (to Mickey)—"Now, Mickey, you read the lesson to me first and then tell me, with the book closed, what you read."

Mickey (reading)—"See the cow. Can the cow run? Yes, the cow can run. Can the cow run as swiftly as the horse? No, the horse runs swifter than the cow." Closing up his book to tell what he has read. "Get onto de cow. Kin her jigsteps run? Be'cher life she kin run. Kin de cow do up de horse a-runnin? Naw, de cow ain't in it wid de horse."—Life.

SHREWD.

Jawkins—"Wonder why such a sharp old fellow as Cashly didn't leave a will?"

Hogg—"Because he didn't want his fortune wasted in construing it."

HE SHOULD BE CONSISTENT.

Father—"Come, Johnny, do as I bade you. Take off your coat this instant."

Johnny—"You ain't goin' to lick me, are you?"

"Certainly I am. Didn't I tell you this morning I would pay you off for your behavior?"

"Yes, but I didn't think you'd do it. You told the grocer and the butcher you'd pay 'em off last week, but I know you let up on them."

A WHIMSICAL WOMAN.

Housekeeper—"How long did you remain in your last place?"

Applicant—"Sure I left in wan day. There was no plazin' the ledgy at all."

"Whimsical, was she?"

"Indade, she was that. The first night she complained because I hoiled the tay, and the very next morning she complained because I did not hoil the coffee. Then I left."—New York Weekly.

MIGHT EVEN DO HIM GOOD.

Mr. Koops—"Now, Mose; how did you come to kill that bird?"

Mose—"Dat's jes' w'at I se comin' to 'splain, Marse Koops. I doue kill dat chicken in self-defense."

Mr. Koops—"Oh, look here, Mose. A little chicken wouldn't hurt you."

Mose—"Ya-as; dat's w'at I thought."—Puck.

TOO MANY NICKELS.

Onyx (an autograph enthusiast)—"Wouldn't you like to see my collection? It's worth several thousand dollars."

The Rev. Mr. Smirke—"Indeed I should! Mine, last Sunday, was only eight dollars and sixty-four cents."—Boston Post.

A DESIRABLE WORK.

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"A failure? I thought he married a fortune."

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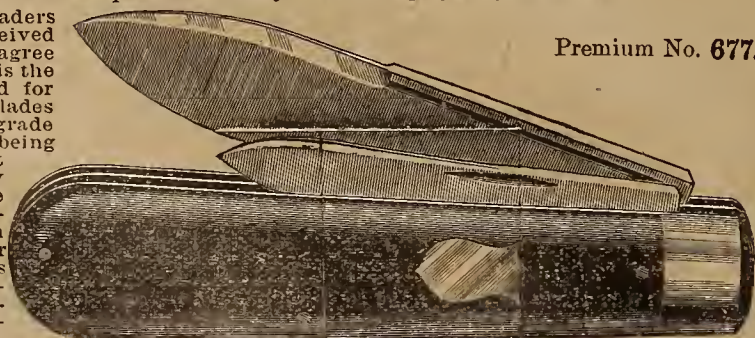
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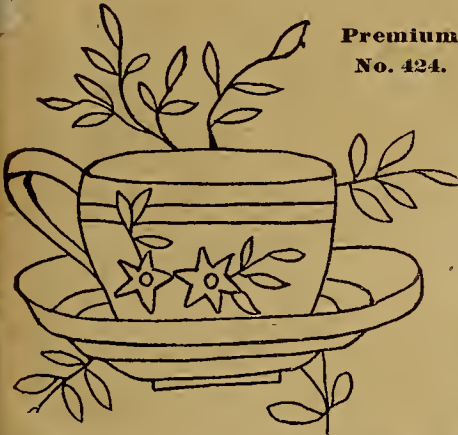
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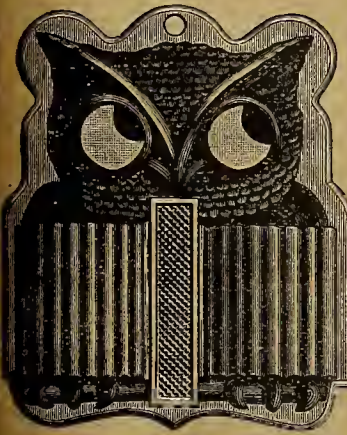
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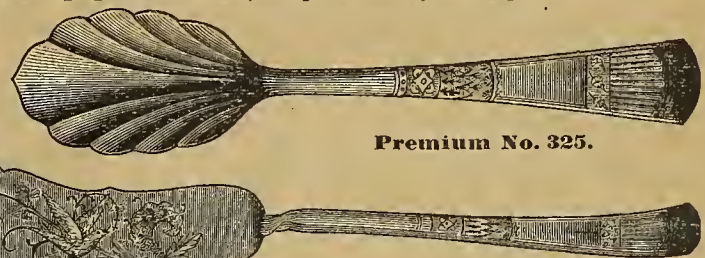
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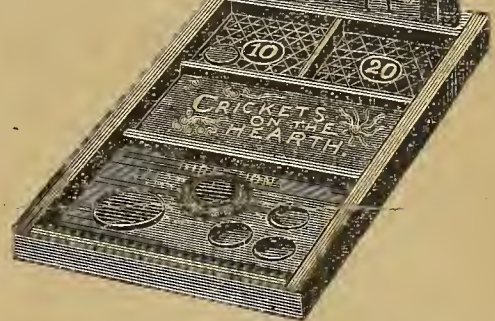
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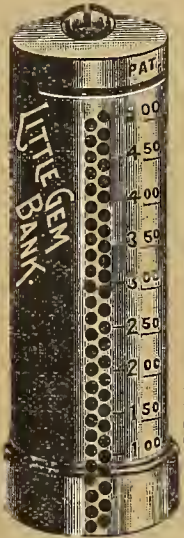
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LITTLE GIANT Threshing Machine.
Threshes Grain, Rice, Flax, Millet and Grass Seed. Fully
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VOL. XV. NO. 6.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., and SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, DECEMBER 15, 1891.

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**Farm and Fireside has More Actual
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Current Comment.

REGARDING the low price of wheat,
a contributor to the Cincinnati
Price Current says:

"It is impossible for me to comprehend how wheat is maintained at present low prices in this country. The news from across the water every day grows stronger, and our exports are keeping up at a fairly large rate; in fact, at the rate that we have been shipping, we will have no wheat left before the time comes for raising another crop. It will take every bushel that we have, and more, if ordinary home consumption is considered. I believe that we will use more wheat this year than formerly, because of the general prosperity in the country.

"You will notice that cables from Europe are constantly filled with increasing stories of damage to the wheat and all other cereal fields.

"There is not a day passes that there are not cables from various sections of Europe only increasing the intensity of the sufferings throughout the old world, and of the continual increase of devastation to the crops.

"It is, in my estimation, the most absurd position in the world for wheat to be selling at current prices to-day in this country, when the situation is so strong abroad and growing stronger every day that passes. Why wheat should sell ten cents lower to-day than several months ago, when the conditions are certainly far more favorable to fancy prices than then, is a question which the bears may have to solve before the middle of December.

"The fact that we have not enough wheat by a great many bushels to supply the foreign demand will certainly have a very material effect on oats and corn, and the farmer ought not to be in any great hurry in selling these."

The "bears" may be able to solve the problem, but they are in no hurry to publish the solution. There is hardly any reasonable doubt that they have not had complete control of the wheat market for weeks past.

Ordinarily, thousands of farmers are absolutely obliged to sell their wheat soon after it is threshed. The conditions that have prevailed for more than two years have forced more of them than ever before into that position. So, in spite of the unusual foreign demand, the certainty of high prices in the future, speculators have not had much difficulty in bearing down wheat prices. How long they can keep them down is not known. In fact, just as soon as the bulk of the crop is out of the farmers' hands, they will work to put prices up. Grain gambling robs producers and consumers. The

latter may have some advantages of the manipulations for awhile, but they must make up for it in the long run.

If there is one thing that farmers, irrespective of party, organization or location, could and should immediately unite on, it is in a determined effort to crush out the whole system of gambling in food products. Every prominent organization of farmers has passed strong resolutions against gambling in futures.

It seems that the time is now ripe for them to bring their united forces to bear on Congress and state legislatures, and secure some effective legislation on this subject.

THE annual report of the United States treasury shows that the government revenues for the past fiscal year were \$392,612,447.31, over \$10,000,000 less than last year. The government expenditures, exclusive of the premiums paid on bonds purchased, were \$355,372,684.74, an increase of over \$57,000,000. The surplus revenues were cut down from \$105,344,496.03 to \$37,239,762.57, which was applied to the reduction of the public debt.

The year's reduction of the principal of the public debt and the circulating notes which cannot be reissued amounted to \$116,590,273.89, and required an expenditure of \$126,991,404.48, including the premiums on bonds purchased, which sum was made up by taking over \$89,000,000 from the reserve in the treasury in addition to the surplus revenues of the year. The report also shows that the amount of money in the country on the 30th of June last, exclusive of certificates in circulation for which the treasury held deposits, was \$1,676,078,102, of which \$180,412,019 belonged to the treasury, and \$1,495,666,083 was in circulation.

ABOUT a year ago we received, in pamphlet form, a lecture on American Indian corn as a cheap, wholesome and nutritious human food, which had been delivered by Col. C. J. Murphy before the national agricultural society of France, at the international congress of millers, held at Paris in August, 1889. Col. Murphy labored hard and long without success to have at the Paris exposition an Indian corn exhibit that would demonstrate in a practical manner to the people of Europe the value of maize as human food. He did, however, succeed in having such an exhibit at the Edinburgh international exhibition.

His object is, in his own language, "to educate the people of Europe in the use of the different forms of Indian corn or maize as human food, and so stimulate its export. If we could convince the populations of Europe that Indian corn is a cheap, whole and palatable food, we could not only do them a service worthy of philanthropic effort, but largely increase the export of maize; and from my experience over here I am convinced that this can be done, and I am willing to devote the balance of my life to this purpose, if I am only properly supported by those whose interest it is to give this great movement aid and encouragement, for ever since the Paris exposition of 1878, I have looked forward with enthusiasm to the time when I could carry out my project on foreign soil. Although the different state governments and the general government look on my efforts with a friendly, encouraging eye, I expect that in the near future the Washington

authorities will enable me to continue my work under official auspices, with far-reaching and more extensive results, accruing from an official relationship to our great nation in aid of this vast interest—the export trade in Indian corn, our national grain.

"Having traveled considerably over Europe during the last few years, studying the question of cheap food, I am convinced that the time is ripe to introduce the general use of corn food, as it would bring to the poor man's door a positive blessing, and help our struggling farmers who are suffering from over-production, and cannot find sufficient foreign markets for their surplus. When the people of Europe once know the real value of this grain, the demand will astonish us, causing an increase of our tonnage and helping to re-establish our merchant marine."

The sequel to the foregoing is found in the following from the *Gazette*: "The attempt of Secretary Rusk's 'Indian corn agent,' Col. Murphy, to introduce the use of that cereal as a ration for the German army has proved entirely successful, as the cable announces that the German war department has concluded its experiments with bread made of half corn and half rye and has determined to recommend its use in the imperial army. It is furthermore believed that the department of the interior will also endorse corn as a cheap, nutritious, healthful and satisfying article of food. This action, in connection with Minister Phelps' diplomacy in introducing to a distinguished company of German dinner guests, corn prepared in various appetizing ways, will doubtless serve to 'set the fashion,' and once the people understand that our maize is in favor on the tables of the rich and receives official endorsement as to its value as a food, it will surely come into popular use, thus opening a great export market for that king of cereals. The value to American agriculturists of an active and open foreign market for their grain and live stock can scarcely be estimated, and the wonder is that long since our authorities have not appreciated the situation sufficiently to turn their earnest attention to it as they are now doing. It is better, of course, that our corn should be exported condensed into beef and pork, but conditions may readily be such that it will temporarily be more profitable to export grain than to condense it into the beef-refrigerator or pork-barrel. With an open market for both our meat and our grain—which are now fairly within sight—a day of prosperity for our agriculturists may again dawn."

THE twenty-fifth annual meeting of the National Grange was held in Springfield, Ohio, the middle of last month. Reports on the condition of the order show that, with the exception of some of the southern states, where it is not prospering, it is in a flourishing condition throughout the country. Among the resolutions adopted were the following: Condemning dealing in futures; opposing the irrigation of arid lands at public expense; indorsing rural free mail delivery; favoring reciprocity and the rapid extension of the application of the principle; favoring free silver coinage; favoring the increase of the circulating medium to \$40 or \$50 per capita; favoring the separation of agricultural colleges

from the classical institutions with which they may be connected; requesting the department of agriculture to collect and publish information regarding the food supply and prices in foreign markets, and also timely bulletins on the condition of the fruit crop in this country; declaring that in all matters of fraternal and grange law and usage the will of the majority is binding upon the membership, but in all domestic, social, economic and political questions the membership shall have perfect freedom of thought and action when the judgment does not coincide with the majority.

December 4, 1891, was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the order, and the National Grange directed the subordinate granges to appropriately celebrate the silver wedding of the order. In the anniversary letter to the patrons of the whole country, the work of the order during the first quarter centennial of its history is summed up as follows:

1. The grange has organized the farmers of America who never before were organized.
2. From a few scattered meetings held in valley, on mountain or prairie, years ago, it has grown until now, in a year at least a million and a half meetings are held.
3. It has broadened the field of usefulness of woman, and has prepared her for her place in the true republic, the full equal of man as a citizen.
4. It has brought light, recreation and good cheer to hundreds of thousands of rural homes.
5. Prevented the renewal of patents on sewing-machines, thus saving to the people fifty per cent of their cost, which amounts to millions annually.
6. Transportation companies were taught that the creator is greater than the creature. See granger cases decided by supreme court of United States.
7. Had passed and have enforced oleomargarine law.
8. Have passed laws somewhat restricting alien landlords and corporations from getting government land.
9. Had interstate commerce law passed.
10. Had cabinet position created for agriculture, thus giving the people's cabinet a representative of the parent of all vocations.
11. Has had agricultural colleges, experiment stations and farms and farmers' institutes established in many states of the Union.
12. Has had some effect on local and state tax levies, and established state labor day.
13. Has caused the reform ballot law to be passed in many states.
14. Has increased state appropriation for public schools.
15. Local achievements, such as building halls, making roads, planting trees and vines, establishing libraries, reading-rooms, banks, fire insurance companies, co-operative enterprises, trade car systems, etc., etc., too numerous to mention, might be cited. Writers, readers, speakers, parliamentarians without number owe their success to the grange. But it ought to be enough to convince you that the grange is progressive, not retrograde. In politics, the grange is non-partisan; in religion, non-sectarian; in essentials, it is unified; in non-essentials, it is liberal; in all things it is charitable.

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

ISSUED 1st AND 15th OF EACH MONTH BY
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orders to the office nearest to you and address

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Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.

The Advertisers in this Paper.

We have that all the advertisements in this paper
are reliable firms or business men, and do not in-
sert any but reliable parties; if subscribers and any of
the public otherwise we should be glad to know it.
Always mention this paper when answering advertise-
ments. Advertisers often have different things ad-
vertised in several papers.

Our Farm.

COMMENTS ON CURRENT AGRICULTURAL
LITERATURE.

BY JOSEPH (T. GREINER.)

THE NEW YORK GRAPE SCARE.—
Many of our agricultural con-
temporaries continue to
pound away at the board of
health of New York City for its "un-
warranted" interference, last September,
with the sale of sprayed grapes, some
writers even trying to make political
capital out of it. I cannot look upon this
matter in this light. In these times, when
soil tillers handle poisonous drugs rather
carelessly, and often carelessly, it must be
expected that green stains on fruits and
vegetables can hardly fail to arouse sus-
picion. Who can tell at a glance whether
the stuff is Paris green or some other
drug? Nor could we expect that the
members of the board of health are ac-
quainted with all the manipulations of
the soil tiller. Who of the readers of this
paper would care to buy and eat (or let
a member of his family eat) grapes
discolored by suspicious-looking green
stains? Who will claim that copper salts
are wholesome or desirable in one's
diet? Perhaps they are harmless, but
I do not want them. The interference by
the board of health, under the circum-
stances, was natural and to be expected,
even if I might admit that these people
went rather in the prompt discharge of a
plain duty than absolutely necessary. But
why put the whole burden of blame upon
their shoulders? The real culprit in the
case is the thoughtless grower who sent
the stuff to market. There is where the
greatest mistake was made, and many
inexperienced growers have had to suffer in
consequence.

Why should not imagine that anything is
good enough for the city market. No
greater mistake was ever made. We can-
not be too careful in the selection and
preparation of our products that we in-
tend to forward to commission dealers.
Grapes with greenish stains are not first-
class, and should be kept at home, or at
least free from the blemish (which is
easily done by dipping in acidulated
water and rinsing off in clear water) before
they are packed and shipped. But now,
really, what business has any grape-
grower to have stained grapes? All in-
structions given about spraying grapes
very emphatically state that late applications
are of much account, but if thought
desirable should be made with the copper
carbonate solution, and not with the
Bordeaux mixture. The latter sticks to
the leaves and stems and leaves closer than
the former, even heavy rains being insuffi-
cient to wash it off, while the former does
not.

The Bordeaux mixture, I believe, will
soon be played out. It has various objec-
tions. First, it is expensive—much more
so than simpler solutions. It is trouble-
some to prepare and troublesome to apply,
as it has to be strained through a fine
sieve, which is often quite a task, and even
then it is apt to clog the spraying nozzle.
Next, you get all soiled with the white,
waxy stuff, and if you get it on fruit, it
sticks, and perhaps causes more trouble.
Why should we apply it at all, when we
have in the solution of copper carbonate
in ammonia a liquid that is almost as
effective in the prevention of plant dis-
eases, much cheaper, and much more
readily prepared and applied? The con-
centrated solution can even be bought
prepared, and with the required quantity
of water added, is then ready for the
spray. It goes under the name of "copper-
dine," costing only \$1 per gallon, which
quantity is sufficient to make 100 gallons
of spraying liquid. At this cost we can
afford to make two sprayings instead of
one with the Bordeaux mixture, and then
we save money.

Every fruit-grower should make a
thorough study of all these questions
during the leisure time of a long winter,
and be prepared to do the thing "just
right" next year. There is no need of
having any trouble, either with the board
of health or in any other way. The New
York incident should be a wholesome
lesson, even if a somewhat expensive one
to some of us. Now, good contemporaries,
cease your attacks upon New York City,
and proceed to talk the lesson into the
heads of those few grape growers who are
bound to disregard ordinary instructions,
and thereby not only injure their own
interests, but also the interests of their
brethren.

A BUG STUDY.—Bulletin No. 3, Vol. IV,
of the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment
Station, treats on "The True Bugs, or Heter-
optera, of Tennessee." Professedly, the
bulletin is gotten up for the use of farmers.
There is no question that soil tillers need
more information about insects. Especially
should they learn how to distinguish their
friends from their foes, in order to protect
the former and fight the latter. Frequently
I have seen people destroy one of their
best friends, the ladybug and its larva.
It is also true that it would be a good thing
for farmers to learn the technical names
of the parts of an insect, to be enabled to
describe any insect they may come across
accurately enough for entomologists to
recognize it and give advice accordingly.
The diagram of bug, showing all the parts
named, which constitutes a whole-page
illustration in the bulletin, is a good
thing, and will be of service, perhaps.
The rest of the bulletin, I fear, will not be
of much use to the farmer. Scientific
men, when they talk to the ordinary soil
tiller, should talk to them in a language
they can understand, and as much as
possible refrain from making use of
scientific terms. I believe that an account
of the "true bugs of Tennessee," for the
enlightenment of the farmer, could and
should be given in a far less formal, and
consequently more popular, more easily
comprehensible way. Not one in a hun-
dred who receive the bulletin will take
the pains to study it through in its present
form.

The entomologist (Prof. H. E. Summers)
tells people who wish information on in-
sects unknown to them, that they should,
if possible, send specimens, which course
is preferable to sending even a good de-
scription. The postage on them is one
cent per ounce. If dead, pack in cotton,
in a tin or wooden box. If possible, larvae
(caterpillars, grubs, maggots) should be
sent alive, packed in a tight tin or wooden
box, with a good supply of their natural
food—leaves or whatever it may be. Do not
punch holes in the box; the tighter it is
the better. Do not use pasteboard boxes;
they are crushed in the mails. Send, also,
as full details as possible concerning the
habits of the insect. Mark name of
sender on outside of box.

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY—FRACTIONAL
CURRENCY.

I have always advocated the idea of free
mail delivery for the farmer, as well as
the city merchant. Even at the risk of
being called a "crank" on the subject have
I contended for a system for the country
delivery similar to that of the city. Now
that the cities have their handy mail

facilities, it is about time that the rural
districts receive a little attention in that
direction. Postmaster-general Wan-
amaker has taken the right step.

The lack of better facilities in the
country cannot all be laid at Uncle Sam's
door. The farmers and those living in
more remote places must shoulder the
greater part of the blame. Did not the
cities see the necessity of better facilities,
and were they not quick to adopt better
methods, the result of which is the system
of perfect postal service? Then why does
the country remain so unconcerned? If
we follow the example of our city
brethren, we can have as good mail
facilities. Farmers should take hold of
the matter, talk it up at every opportunity,
write their congressman to put the matter
before congress and secure legislation to
empower the postmaster-general to put a
system of free delivery in operation.

FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

Fractional paper currency is a necessity.
One fact alone ought to convince any one
of the need of small paper currency. That
is, the absence of a money-order office at a
great many of our post-offices. There is a
great deal of trade and traffic by mail
nowadays, and what are the people who
live near offices having no money-order
office to do when they send money
through the mails? Send silver, which
is liable to break through and get lost? Buy
stamps and send them, and make
the receiver feel like committing treason
to his government before he succeeds in
getting them loose from the letter? This
is of more interest to the rural classes
than to city people. When city people
send money through the mails, they can
get money-orders, postal-notes or express-
orders; a fee must be paid for all these.
Fractional paper money goes for its face
value all the time, and it is much more
convenient to handle or carry about. We
should demand it in no uncertain way.
Richfield, Ill. J. C. B.

THE COW-PEA.

Cow-peas, as is generally known, are in
great favor with southern farmers. They
are especially well adapted to light sandy
and clay soils, but will make a fair yield
on land that is too poor to produce any
other crop profitably. I am not informed
as to how far north the cow-peas will
mature, but it would doubtless pay every
farmer who can do so to raise a few acres
for his stock.

VALUABLE AS FERTILIZER.

Cow-peas are not only valuable as stock
feed, but also as a renovator of depleted
soils. They belong to the class of plants
that collect nitrogen, and leave the soil in
a more fertile state than before they were
grown upon it.

VARIETIES.

There are many varieties of cow-peas,
some of the most popular of which are:
The Whippoorwill, a speckled pea with a
bunchy vine. It matures early, and on
account of its bunchy growth, is popular
as a bog crop. It is also quite prolific.

There are several varieties of both black
and red cow-peas, all of which are hard
and resist atmospheric influences in a
remarkable degree, lying on the ground
all winter without rotting. The Clay pea,
too, has this characteristic, and also makes
a good growth of vine. It is highly prized
as a fall pasture and as a green manure
crop.

A few years ago a pea came to the front
in Georgia which was designated the
"Unknown" pea. It soon gained notoriety,
and was scattered nearly all over the
South. Its distinctive features are the
immense growth of vine and its large
yield of pods. It is a rank grower, the
vines running ten to twenty feet in every
direction, and every runner is full of pods.
On account of its trailing tendency, the
Unknown pea is a very desirable variety
to plant in the corn at laying-by. It does
not limb upon the stalks much, as most
varieties do.

What is known in Mississippi as the
Eureka pea is similar to the Unknown in
its rank growth of vine and its prolificacy,
but of a different color, being speckled
with brown spots, while the Unknown is
nearly white until it gets damp, when it
turns brown.

STOCK PEAS.

All the varieties above named, and
many more could be enumerated with
them did space permit, are strictly stock

peas. True, they are often eaten by
southern people (especially the Whippoor-
will), but they are all dark when cooked.
The Whippoorwills are quite palatable
when boiled with bacon, but the popular
table varieties are all white.

TABLE PEAS.

There are several of them, the most
generally raised being the large white pea
with black eye. It is a good bearer, and
on account of its size, a man can gather a
good deal larger quantity than he can of
the smaller kinds. The little white Lady
pea is a universal favorite wherever it is
known, as a table pea; but there is one still
smaller, known in North Carolina as the
Rice pea. It is an elegant table dish, sur-
passed by anything in the list of peas
and beans.

[NOTE.—Cow-peas are beans in reali-
ty and the term "pea" is a misnomer; they
will probably continue to be called
"peas."—D. N.]

SOUTHERN MARKET AND PRICE.

While cow-peas are raised to a less
greater extent all over the South, Ten-
nessee and Georgia, perhaps, pro-
duce more than any other two states. New
Orleans is one of the greatest markets
for the South for cow-peas, thousands
of bushels being shipped there every day,
and sold to the sugar planters to sow
their lands for fertilizing purposes. The
retail from one to two dollars a bushel,
the white table varieties bringing the best
prices.

To the average southerner there are few
more toothsome dishes than a plate of
black-eyed peas boiled with a piece of
smoked bacon. DICK NAYLOR.

Texas.

THE GOODLETTSVILLE (TENNESSEE)
LAMB CLUB.

ORGANIZATION AND CO-OPERATION.

In these days of sharp competition in
business, it is as important to study the
means and methods of competition as the
special economies of general production.
Organization has been the most direct aid

ring or driven out of the business alto-
gether. What has been gained to the few
was at the expense of the many.

The organizations of farmers for mutual
aid and protection have been, in far too
many instances, unfortunate for some-
body in the end, because of the pressure
brought to bear from parties whose in-
terests were served by any means that
could divide and destroy confidence,
which means credit. As a rule, farmers
are afraid of each other. Their individual
interests are so individual, and their self-
reliance is so self-reliant, that they hesi-
tate to give their confidence and wel-
fare into the hands of business men,
though they be farmers and their own
neighbors. This question has been so fully
discussed during the last few years that
a change has gradually been going on in
the direction of mutual confidence and
greater harmony among farmers in all
lines of business for their general good.
Once in a while an exception to this spirit
of exclusiveness and suspicion of each
other's abilities and veracity exists and
indicates what the future, and indeed
present, should be among farmers.

LAMB AND WOOL CLUB.

The Goodlettsville (Tennessee) Lamb
Club is one of the most conspicuous in-
stances of this kind, that it is just and
proper to agricultural producers to show
the manner and results of such an orga-
nization. This club has been doing good
work for more than eleven years. Al-
though called a lamb club, the wool of the
members is sold in the same way. There
is also a potato club in the same neigh-
borhood, of which we do not propose to
say more than merely point to the fact
which speaks so much for the intelligence
of the people of Goodlettsville, Tennessee.
A letter before me from its president,
gives the results of their enterprise so
tersely that no one could do better. I
will use his own words:

"Previous to the organization of the
Goodlettsville Lamb and Wool Club we
sold our lambs to Nashville butchers, or to
speculators for from \$2 to \$2.50 per head.
The first year of the orga-

by weight at 5½ cents per pound. We had two car-loads and realized \$4.10 per head for our lambs. Those who did not belong to the club got \$2.25 per head for their lambs. An effort was made to prevent or break up the organization, but failed to do so. The second year nearly all the farmers joined the club. Our lambs sold for 5½ cents per pound. The president managed the selling both these years. The third year a committee of three, discreet business men, was appointed to sell by sealed bids, previously announced to be opened at a certain time in the future. The lambs sold at 5½ cents per pound. The prices for the next nine years consecutively were 6, 6.25, 6.25, 6.35, 6.30, 6.20, 6.35, 6.30, and 6 cents per pound, delivered between the 15th and 20th of May. Every farmer in the neighborhood has joined. We have sixty members.

The interest in lamb-raising is on the increase. It pays us better than anything we can do. We have been benefited by the organization at least 33½ per cent. When the committee has arranged the day and notified the buyers, the sealed bids are sent in, the lambs graded to a standard and weight (the wool is sold in the same way), everybody is ready to deliver their stock. On sale day the produce is on hand. The farmers and their families and the buyers are there. The bids are opened and the whole is quickly sold and the money paid. The cars are ready and the shipper gets his lambs already gathered up and there is no further trouble. All are pleased; nobody is wronged; it is fair and square business. The buyer gets our stock and we get the money.

LAMB MOTHERS AND EWES.

For lamb mothers we use, at present, the common mountain ewe. We use the pure-bred Southdown ram. Experience has taught us this cross makes the best mutton lamb. The ewe costs, in summer, \$2.50 to \$3 per head delivered in our pastures. They are usually thin in flesh. We put the ram with them in August. They yield four pounds of wool and average a lamb and a half to the ewe. We prefer twins because two lambs will weigh more than one, but not two times as much.

NO BARN, OR SHEDS, OR DISEASES.

We use no barns or sheds at any time of the year. We use no grain or roughness at any time for the sheep. We salt them, keep them gentle and keep the dogs from them, for dogs are the natural enemies of sheep. We have no diseases with our sheep. With very little trouble and expense we realize from \$6 to \$10 from a \$2.50 ewe.

MEETINGS.

We hold four meetings a year, but have no essays or addresses; we give our experiences and observations. I am sorry to say, and surprised, that we do not take any journal published in the special interest of sheep husbandry.

SELLING THE WOOL.

We sell our wool by sealed bids and get from two to three cents per pound above the general market. Our sales last year were over ten thousand pounds. Of lambs last year we sold two thousand. They went to New York and Boston.

BY-LAWS.

They are governed by a code of by-laws under the constitution of a Christian conscience.

ONLY CLUB OF THE KIND.

If there is another similar co-operative club in the United States we do not know it, but we do believe such helps are valuable and should be as possible as down in Tennessee. These people are enthusiastic about their business and about their club, and so they should be.

R. M. BELL.

CORN-CRIBS.

EDITORS FARM AND FIRESIDE:—In your paper of October 1st, Mr. L. B. Pierce tells us how to build a corn-crib. Now, will he be kind enough to tell us why the crib is forty inches wide at the bottom and sixty inches wide at the top? The building is not symmetrical, and looks top-heavy. There is also an apparent waste of roofing material. The farmers' club of the New York Tribune of over thirty years ago, spent a whole session in trying to find out why corn-cribs were made wider at the top than at the bottom, and failed. Will Mr. Pierce tell us why?

Trumbull county, Ohio. J. W. NEWCOMB.

If my friend will turn to the 41st page of Mark Twain's "Tramp Abroad," he will see that the discussion of a question by a great number does not always result in arriving at a true solution, and that so simple a matter as the filling of a knot-hole with acorns has possibilities outside the pale of ordinary induction. As regards the matter in question, it always appeared plain to me that a corn-crib was narrow at the bottom and wide at the top principally because it prevented water from lodging on the outside covering and dripping down inside, to the detriment of the frame and wetting of the corn. Built in this manner, with horizontal weather-boarding, what rain reaches the boards drips off the outside lower corners, and does not either wet the grain or get back of the board and rot the studding. There is also another reason: The first corn put in a crib is greener than the last, and the narrower width permits more thorough drying.

My critic is right in saying that the corn-crib looks top-heavy. Since his letter I have noticed more than a hundred, and they all look the same way. By building them lower and broader this look may be mitigated; but in a wet season, or with imperfectly-ripened corn, the grain will spoil; hence, the necessity for building narrow, and narrow cribs must be built high in order to hold much. The setting of corn-cribs on pillars two or more feet high increases the top-heavy appearance, and I believe might be reduced, perhaps, to twenty inches where the ground was level, as I think it doubtful whether a rat could leap higher than this. Still, I think it best to be on the safe side, and put the sewer-pipe pillars entirely above ground.

At the time I wrote the article to which Mr. Newcomb refers, I had the foundation built for a crib after the pattern illustrated, and was waiting for some logs to be sawed for material with which to build it. This was delayed until after the article was printed, and just at that time a neighbor built a double crib, which set me to thinking, and Mr. Newcomb's letter coming at the same time led me to see how a corn-crib might be architecturally perfect and yet answer the purpose.

The crib in question is 9 feet wide, 12 feet long, 6 feet high, with a quarter-pitch roof, and flares about 12 inches; or, in other words, is 10 feet across at the eaves. It has a bin about 39 inches wide along either side, and a light floor at the eaves separating the loft. The loft and central alley may both be filled with corn, after that in the outside bins has become dry. Since writing the article in question I have definitely ascertained that it takes one and a third cubic feet of room to hold a bushel of ears, measured as we measure potatoes or apples, my wagon-box containing forty cubic feet, holding thirty bushels, and on this basis one can figure the contents of a crib.

In reflecting on the matter it seemed that a double or wide crib had advantages that did not pertain to the ordinary ones, the principal one next to architectural appearance being that it could be so arranged as to use a portion for something else when not filled with corn. As I scarcely ever raise grain other than corn, I have no granary, yet at all times of the year have more or less that it is desirable to keep away from rats and mice. Sometimes it is horse feed, sometimes a load of berries to keep over night, at other times apples, pears or peaches; so I built larger than I at first intended, duplicating the foundation already made, and making the bottom of the structure 9 by 12. The ends are perpendicular, the sides spread 9 inches, making it 10-6 at the plates, which are 8 feet above the bottom of the crib. The roof is half pitch to correspond with the other roofs on the place, all of which are the same pitch. The north end is convenient to the wagon path which leads to the fields, and is to be used for temporary storage of fruit below, and the loft for storing berry-crates, boxes, picking-stands,

etc. The south half is for corn. It is sided up and down with barn siding, and for the sides of the crib, part of the 12-inch boards were ripped once and placed one inch apart.

The cut is a perspective view of the building as now completed. It rests upon twelve 9-inch sewer-pipes. The sills are four 2-inch planks ten inches wide, and the flooring is inch oak boards laid across them. The pipes rest upon a foundation of cobblestone one foot deep, with a thin, flat stone on top. The roof is covered with hemlock shingles, and the doors are pine flooring. The floor of the loft only extends over the north half. There is a square door over the corn-house door in the south gable, so corn can be shoveled in until the house is filled almost to the peak.

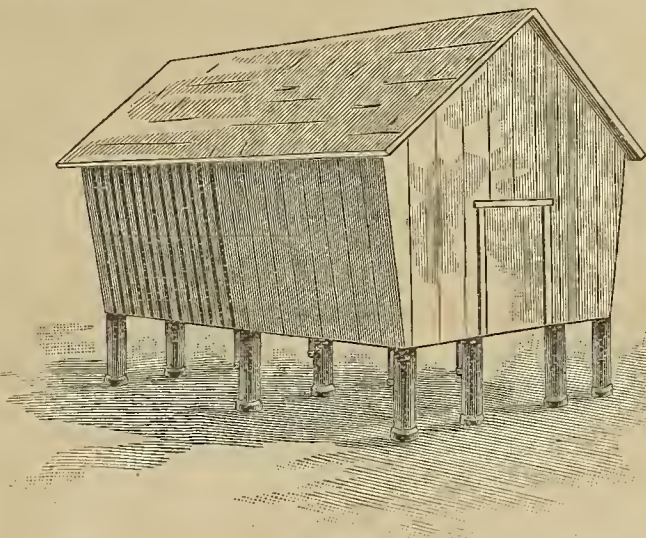
The cost for material purchased (covering and shingles) was \$14, and the balance furnished, figured at \$15 per 1,000, was nearly \$10 more. I built it myself. It took six days work of myself, two of my thirteen-year-old boy and one of a hired hand.

L. B. PIERCE.

Summit county, Ohio.

TILE-DRAINING FARM LANDS.

Few farmers appreciate the value of thoroughly underdraining wet places on their farms, or we should see this advance in improvement oftener undertaken. What has up to the time of draining been little if anything more than an idle waste, may by judicious tile-draining become the most fertile and productive spot in the neighborhood. Thus, instead of being a constant threat to health and an unsightly waste, it is turned by a few tiles and some work into a source of profit to the owner, and will



be pointed to with pride by everyone who knows of it as an object lesson in what may be done in a great many other places.

These remarks have been suggested by observations on a meadow which had been flooded by the filling up of an old mill-pond near Morganton, but which is being reclaimed for Dr. P. L. Murphy, superintendent of the state hospital, by Mr. W. E. Walton, who has the farming for the hospital in his immediate charge. Up to the time the first drains were laid, which was less than a year ago, the whole area was either a barren waste or a thicket of coarse weeds and small trees, of which no use could be made. This season it has produced a heavy growth of corn in the whole area first drained, except on about one half acre, where the wire-worms (the larvae of the snapping-beetles) have injured it, and about two acres, most of which was devoted to melons and pumpkins. Thirty tons of watermelons were taken from about one and one half acres, and the yellow pumpkins, while still on the ground where they grew, were a beautiful sight in the early September sun.

It was but a short time ago when a high authority in agriculture expressed the opinion that the stream into which the drains must empty could not be lowered enough to make the drainage of this meadow successful. Straightening the curves by cutting across the loops has helped, so that now the stream has cut its own bottom down eighteen inches lower than it was when the work was undertaken.

This reclaimed meadow bids fair to become the most productive field on the farm, which is contributing in many ways to the support of the state hospital. —F. E. Emery, Agriculturist, N. C. Experiment Station.

THE HOUSING OF THE DOG.

Many a dog passes a cheerless winter, and the wonder is that he lives to enjoy the pleasures of spring. On some farms he is not allowed in the house—his appearance there would create a commotion—and he is locked out of the barn, for it is considered to be his duty to watch and ward off marauders.

According to the theory of some persons, he could not be a watch-dog except by his bark, unless at large. But the dog's bark is not enough. The farmer hears it so much that an "unusual" bark may not wake him. Further, the thief who intends to rob a house or barn, passes the place where a dog is kept, unless he learns that the dog is shut in at night. Then he has no fear of the dog, and may work unmolested in house or barn, even if a barking dog be in the other. In the summer the dog requires no nesting-place, only a retreat from night rains, but in the winter it is simply an act of cruelty to drive him out of doors. One farmer who wishes his dog to be alert in winter as well as in summer, has arranged a swinging door in the side of the barn. The dog passes in and out by pressing against it. The dog has access to the cow-stable, where it is warm in the coldest weather.

If the dog cannot get into the barn, he should have a house of his own, tight, filled with hay or straw, and provided with a swinging door, hung at the top. The door is always closed, does not interfere with his quick ingress or egress, and, although fitting as closely as possible, does not prevent the dog's hearing any unusual sound, or, indeed, any sound.

A dog kept as a watch-dog should be fed only once a day, in the morning. Then he should have a hearty meal—all he wants. He is then drowsy and sleeps a good part of the day, and is wakeful during the night. But give the dog a bed-shelter in the winter, something besides the lee side of a hedge or a picket fence.

GEORGE APPLETON.

WHEAT HARVESTING IN CALIFORNIA.

But the last two years have witnessed another development of machinery in California wheat culture. Steam power has been successfully applied, and a very great reduction in cost has been made. In the summer of 1889 a large number of field-engines, built here, on California designs, were in the fields with astonishing results. The largest of them cut a swath of forty feet, and harvested the crop at a cost for running expenses of less than twenty-five cents per acre, as against \$1.75 of the old system. The same engine is expected to plow, carrying twelve or twenty, or even forty plows, and, since it is a road-engine, it will haul the crop to the nearest station or landing at less expense than if hauled with horses. The price of such an engine, with the harvester and thresher, is from \$5,000 to \$8,000 at present, but this cost, it is said, will soon be reduced. From the talk among wheat-growers, two or three years will witness the introduction of steam on the large ranches. The engines are "straw-burners;" or, when plowing, wood can be used. Coal is very high on the Pacific coast, and therefore coal-burning engines will never be profitable here. I have asked wheat-raisers what they thought would be the cost of plowing, harrowing, seeding, harvesting and delivering at the station, if these steam-engines do what is expected. They answer: "About one dollar an acre, on the easily-farmed lands, and not more than two dollars anywhere." This, then, is the way that California can successfully meet the competition of India, Russia, Siberia and the Argentine Republic.—*American Agriculturist*.

Happy

Results so often follow the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla for **Dyspepsia** and similar troubles, that we are warranted in urging a trial of this medicine upon every sufferer. In many cases where the suffering has been intense,

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I took two or three bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla and entirely recovered, much to my gratification. I frequently have opportunity to praise

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and am glad to, for I consider it a great medicine." C. I. TROWBRIDGE, Travelling salesman for Schlotterbeck & Foss, Portland, Me.

Our Farm.

CELERY UNDER IRRIGATION.

BY JOSEPH.

CELERY—good celery—can be grown on almost any soil, from sand to clay, and from clay to muck, if other conditions, especially those of moisture and fertility, are favorable. Put plenty of good, old compost right into the soil where the roots feed, and a good crop will be the sure result, provided the needed moisture—from rainfall or otherwise—is not lacking. But when you want to make a specialty of celery-growing, and of necessity have to reduce the cost of the crop to a minimum in order to be able to put it on the market with the cheap and cheaply-grown Kalamazoo product, you must have loose, mucky soil; and if you want to make sure of a good crop, year after year, you must provide some sort of irrigation.

Mucky soils, just right for the purpose, are found in every part of the country, and a large part of these again are so situated that some system of irrigation could be arranged with very little trouble and expense. Wherever this is the case, there is, I believe, a chance to make celery culture profitable, and with shrewd management, certainly much more profitable than it could be done at Kalamazoo.

In a former issue I mentioned, as an instance of this kind, the thirty-five-acre celery patch of Mr. John F. White, of Mount Morris, N. Y. Here we find an ideal patch and an ideal system of culture. Nothing is left to chance; consequently, the crop is a sure one and the yield invariably large.

THE IRRIGATING PLANT.—The patch consists of a tract of loose, deep, black muck, in parts intermixed with a little sand, and filled so full of stable manure that this can be recognized all through the soil to quite a depth. This tract is situated along the foot of a steep hill or ridge, with a slight slope away from it. A few rods off to one side of this tract, a little stream rushes down the hill, and this stream furnishes the water needed to irrigate the entire field of about twenty acres in dry weather. The accompanying sketch, I hope, will make the arrangement plain. A main ditch, two or three feet deep (I did not measure it), is dug along the foot of the hill on about a dead level, and branches at regular intervals (of say ten rods, more or less) across the field, ending into another ditch, which forms the lower boundary of the field, and carries the surplus water away, back into the bed of the little stream.

In a wet time, this system of open ditches affords very thorough drainage. In a dry time, the various flood-gates are all closed, only the flood-gate connecting the main ditch with the water supply (stream) is opened, and the ditch filled to overflowing. All the water-gates along the main ditch are then opened, and the water allowed to fill the cross ditches to the first set of flood-gates. The water in these sections of the irrigating ditches rises clear to the surface, and then soaks into the loose soil and all through it. Mr. White tells me that this process is going on so fast that it takes only twenty-four hours for the water to soak all through and meet between the ditches, and make the soil so wet that it would not be safe for a horse to travel over it. Then the second set of flood-gates are opened, and these sections of the ditches allowed to fill to the next gates. After another twenty-four hours, the latter are opened and the next lower sections put under irrigation, and so on.

The results of this system of irrigation, aided by the liberal use of stable manure, are quite remarkable in this particular case, and nowhere have I seen finer, larger, more solid celery than on this piece of ground. The Kalamazoo article cannot compare with it, and from what I was able to learn here, the venture is quite a profitable one. Of course, the water applications have to be made with good judgment. Even so good a thing as water can be used too copiously. Excessive applications, and over-frequent ones, are very apt to induce rot. The rule is to make a thorough application, just enough that every part of the land will become quite moist, then resume cultivation

as soon as the surface is dry enough to be worked, and refrain from further water application until after the soil begins to get quite dry again.

Definite rules about width of the beds, number of and distance between, the flood-gates in each ditch, cannot be given. All these things depend on the lay of the land, the porosity of the soil and the slope. If the ditches are nearly on a dead level, few flood-gates will be needed; if there is considerable slope, they may have to be put quite close together.

I believe that there are thousands of yet undeveloped opportunities of the same character as the one here described, and they should be found and made use of.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

BORDEAUX MIXTURE AT KENWOOD.

My grapes did not do at all well last year. Niagara rotted fearfully, Vergennes, Creveling and all of Rogers' hybrids, except Agawam, lost their leaves early, and, of course, the fruit was insipid—and let me say right here, that you need not look for highest-flavored grapes unless the leaf opposite the cluster is large, healthy and doing its work until the grapes are dead ripe. Mildew attacked the clusters of Wyoming and Salem when the fruit was no larger than bird-shot. The bunches so affected perished right away; Delaware was mildewed in the leaf, numerous dun-colored spots appearing on the underside. The leaves soon grew pale and worthless for the development of high-flavored grapes. After the healthy grapes were quite grown they were attacked by a different sort of fungus from that which destroyed Salem and Wyoming. I was getting ready for some other fun-

When I add that I had about a ton of Agawams rendered nearly worthless from leaf failure and mildew, you may guess with safety that I have resolved to use the Bordeaux mixture freely and generally next year.—*Correspondence American Garden.*

PROFIT OF SMALL FRUIT FARMING.

The following statement by Mr. M. A. Thayer, of Wisconsin, of the expenditures and receipts of his Wisconsin fruit farm, shows the value of systematic work and good business principles when applied to the fruit business. I have personally visited this farm and know the painstaking, care and system which characterizes all its operations. Mr. Thayer is in the banking business, but is a great lover of practical horticulture:

Five years ago the question of growing small fruits in Sparta, for profit, was a doubtful one, and those who ventured to set an acre or more were considered wild and visionary.

With firm faith in Sparta as having soil, location and distributing advantages over most localities, and believing that best varieties highly cultivated, closely selected, carefully picked, honestly packed and quickly delivered would command best prices, the writer undertook to prove his faith, promising to make a truthful statement of his success or failure. That statement I now make, with a few suggestions for the thoughtful consideration of those who are about to engage in this business.

The original farm, to which several considerable pieces have been added from time to time, having been rented or unoccupied for several years, was completely exhausted and run out. With the liberal use of stable manure, clover mulching and

Detailed receipts are made for this year to show the difference between sales on orders from regular customers and those sent to commission houses:

RECEIPTS.			
Strawberries—			
On orders.....	295 cases at \$1.75.....	\$	516.00
On orders.....	475 " " 1.60.....		760.00
On commission.....	502 " " .85.....		266.70
Total.....	1,072 " avg. 1.44.....	\$	1,542.70

Black raspberries—			
On orders.....	272 cases at \$1.75.....	\$	476.00
".....	342 " " 1.60.....		547.00
".....	157 " " 1.50.....		235.00
".....	32 " " 1.40.....		44.80
On commission.....	166 " " .97.....		161.02
Total.....	969 " avg. 1.50.....	\$	1,464.32

Red raspberries—			
On orders.....	121 cases (24 pts) at \$1.75.....	\$	
On commission.....	111 " " 1.50.....		
".....	31 " " 1.20.....		

Total.....	263 cases average.....	1.58.....	
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Blackberries—			
On orders.....	63 cases (16 qt.) at \$1.75.....	\$	
".....	428 " " 1.60.....		
".....	1,155 " " 1.50.....		
".....	100 " " 1.35.....		
".....	129 " " 1.25.....		
".....	23 " " 1.00.....		
On commission.....	718 " " .97.....		

Total.....	2,616 cases average.....	1.36.....	\$
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Currents and gooseberries—			
On orders, 85 cases, average \$1.28.....			

GRAND TOTAL FOR 1891.			
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RECEIPTS.			
1,072 cases Strawberries, 16 qt., at \$1.44.....	\$		
969 " Bl. raspb'rs, " " 1.50.....			
263 " Red " 24 pt., " 1.58.....			
2,616 " Blackberries, 16 qt., " 1.36.....			
85 " G'seberries and cur'ts " 1.28.....			

5,005 cases berries, average.....	1.41½	\$	
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Plants sold.....			
Farm produce.....			

Total receipts.....			
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EXPENSES.			
Farm labor.....	\$2,536.30		
Picking.....	905.23		
Cases and boxes.....	558.47		
Miscellaneous.....	500.00		

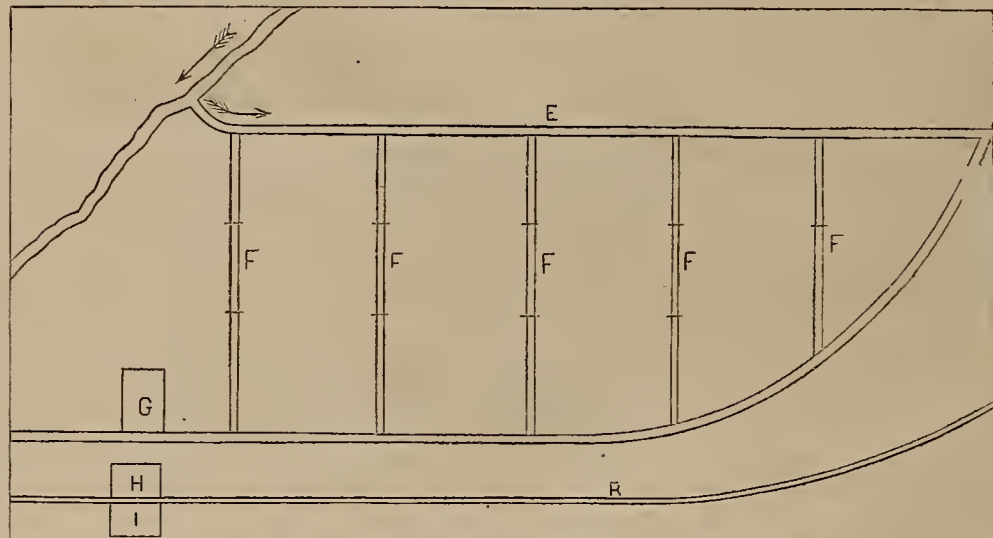
Total.....	\$4,500.00		
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	\$4,500.00		
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Net profit.....	\$4,346.76		
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NOTE.—In making estimates fractions are omitted. Shipments were made to commission houses only of surplus stock, Saturday pickings and surplus fruit. Nearly one half the berry acreage of the farm is new setting, from which little or no fruit was taken this year. Most shipments were made to points from 150 to 400 miles distant.

My experience in small fruit growing leads me to suggest that there is money



IRRIGATING PLANT.

E, main ditch from mountain stream. F, F, F, F, F, irrigation ditches. G, storage-house. H, packing-house. I, station. R, railroad. The short cross lines show where the flood-gates are located.

gicide than air-slaked lime and sulphur, and when I read of the Bordeaux mixture as a remedy for grape diseases, I resolved to experiment with it. I dissolved six pounds of blue vitriol, costing thirty-six cents, in four buckets of hot water; four pounds of fresh lime, dissolved in cold water as well as I could. These I mixed in a kerosene-barrel and then added enough water to fill the barrel.

June 20th I sprayed Salem, Niagara and part of the Delawares, using a hand-pump with a nozzle having only two holes. On the 30th, mildew appeared on Salem and I used the Bordeaux mixture again, taking pains to wet the clusters of fruit. That application seemed to arrest any further mildew on that sort, but it did not prevent the destruction of the little bunches already snitten. There was a third application of the mixture to the vines selected for experiment, but I failed to record it. July 5th I finished sulphuring the rest of the vines subject to mildew and found a Rogers' No. 19 mildewed, like Salem. Grape harvest began September 7th, heavy rain came the 9th and continued till the 19th. After this I noticed that a great many of the vines were losing their leaves, not excepting an occasional Hartford Prolific; and here was my great surprise—Salem was holding its leaves wonderfully and they were green as leeks. This sort had always been about the worst example of leaf failure; Delaware was just as green, while the vines of that sort to which no Bordeaux had been given were badly jaundiced and gave no good fruit. The Niagaras treated bore heavily, kept their leaves and perfected every berry, while a neighbor's vine lost its leaves and presented a poor mess of fruit for the des-

very thorough cultivation, a high state of fertility has been obtained.

The soil is mostly sandy loam, with portions of clear sand and black loam with clay subsoils. It is situated in the La Crosse valley, nearly level, rolling enough for good drainage, and gently sloping toward the east and south, with low, wooded hills on the north and west. Avenues or alleys twelve feet wide are laid out around the outside of the farm, and cross alleys every twelve and one half rods, giving uniform length of rows.

The first year's planting consists of:

Blackberries.....	8 acres.
Raspberries.....	7 " "
Strawberries.....	2 " "
Total.....	17 acres.

The expenses were as follows:

For plants.....	\$628.40
For labor.....	960.29
For miscellaneous.....	30.04
Total.....	\$1,618.73

No income. Second year—eight acres new setting added:

EXPENSES.		RECEIPTS.	
Labor.....	\$1,520.96	Strawberries.....	\$218.48
Miscellaneous.....	941.28	Raspberries.....	152.00
Total.....	\$2,462.24	Blackberries.....	366.20
		Farm produce.....	189.10
		Total.....	\$926.22
		Total expenses over income, \$1,536.02.	

Third year—ten acres new setting added:

EXPENSES.		RECEIPTS.	
Labor.....	\$2,163.16	Berries.....	\$3,301.21
Picking.....	398.94	Plants.....	428.85
Miscellaneous.....	832.86	Miscellaneous.....	702.39
Total.....	\$3,394.96	Total.....	\$4,432.45
		Net profit, \$1,037.49.	

Fourth year—ten acres new setting.

At the beginning of this year permanent improvements and additional lands purchased increased the investment above all receipts to \$8,821.60, for 117 acres.

highly fertilized and always well cultivated; a limited variety of best hardy plants, producing large, firm, high-colored fruit throughout the season; proper mulching, nipping, pruning, thinning of fruit and winter protection; a knowledge of fungus and insect enemies, and remedies for same; neat, uniform packages, well made, fruit carefully picked, boxes well filled, and, above all, of uniform quality throughout.

To the beginner I would say, go slow. This has been a fruitful year, with good weather for shipping and prices seldom equaled. Do only what you can do well; nothing but the best production will pay. You may safely figure that, besides the land, every acre of good, general small fruit, properly prepared, planted and brought to a bearing age, will cost from \$125 to \$150 in hard-earned dollars, or their equivalent in honest work at \$1.25 per day. There are many expensive lessons to learn, unless you have some one's good experience to serve you.

Commence modestly. Subscribe liberally for good papers and increase your plantation as experience is gained.

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Orehard and Small Fruits.
CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED
BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Grafting Grape-vines.—C. H. B., Lisbon, Mich. I have found that grapes should be grafted very early in the spring, before a bud has commenced to swell. The earlier done the better. Insert scion in stock below the surface of land and earth up around the union when grafted. I use either a whip or cleft graft, as is most convenient. Sometimes I have been successful when no wax or clay was put around the union, but I prefer to cover the wounds with a good, stiff clay. The deeper the union is below the surface, the surer the graft is to grow. I graft as much as six inches below the surface, if possible, and allow one bud to come above the surface.

Cob and Coal Ashes.—H. B. B., Elston, Ind., writes: "The grain elevators here use corn cobs and coal for fuel—mostly cobs. Would the ashes be worth the hauling two or one half miles for orchard and farm use?"

REPLY:—The only satisfactory way to find out is by trying them; but it is my opinion that they would be well worth the hauling. They are very rich in potash, which is an element that gives great returns from its use in all the New England states, but not so uniform results in the western and middle states. If wood ashes works well on your land, you may be sure that cob ashes will. Probably if used to supplement barn-yard manure it will do best.

Planting and Fertilizing Apple-trees.—W. T. K., Galloway, Ind., writes: "I intend setting five hundred apple-trees on a piece of land that has been run in wheat for five or six years. The land is a light, post-oak soil. I can get wood ashes at fifty cents per wagon load, or refuse lime at forty cents per load, by drawing it three miles, and have plenty of barn and chip manure at home. (1) When should the trees be planted? (2) Which of the manures would be the best? (3) Would it be better to mix them? (4) If so, how much of each should be used in the mixture? (5) How much should be used to each tree? (6) Should it be put in the ground when the tree is set, or should it be cultivated in afterwards?"

REPLY:—(1) Plant trees early in the spring. (2) Should use the barn and chip manure, applied this winter, if the land is plowed. If it is not and cannot be plowed this fall, apply in the spring and plow it in. (3, 4) I think good barn-yard manure alone will probably be the best kind of fertilizer for the land you describe. (5) Should use about eight cords to the acre. (6) Do not put any manure in the holes with the trees, but apply either before or after trees are set.

Kerosene Emulsion for Rose-bugs and Rot on Grapes.—J. D., Red Bank Furnace, Pa. Kerosene emulsion has not proven a satisfactory remedy for the rose-bug. Probably your best plan to avoid both rot and rose-bug is to bag the grapes when they are in the bud. This is a simple process, and can be done for about one fourth of a cent per pound. It consists simply of drawing a one-pound sack over the bunch and pinning it over the lateral. Often two bunches can be put in one bag. This is a perfect protection against the rose-bug and is nearly so against rot. On varieties that have reflexed stamens, as have most of Rogers' hybrids, it will not do to bag until the fruit is set; but on Concord, Worden, Moore's Early, etc., it works all right. Grapes matured in bags are finer, have a better bloom, and where appearance counts, brings the best price. On the other hand, the skin is thinner and more tender, and they do not ship as well. For force-pump and spraying outfits, write for catalogues to Nixon Nozzle & Machine Co., Dayton, Ohio, and to Wm. Stahl, Quincy, Ill.

Pond Sediment as a Fertilizer for Orchards.—J. W. T., Xenia, Ill., writes: "Would it pay or be advisable to put around young apple-trees, dirt or soil taken out of the bottom of an old mill pond that has not been cleaned out for twenty years? The whole town drains in said pond, and as it has never been cleaned out the deposit is about two feet deep and very black. The pond is now dry. Would it pay to haul it a quarter of a mile? How do you think it would compare with stable manure?"

REPLY:—The sediment in the pond would undoubtedly pay for hauling a quarter of a mile. It is dangerous, however, to apply such stuff very liberally to crops until it has been exposed to the air for several months, unless the application is made in autumn, when the frosts would probably so disintegrate it as to render it harmless by spring. It might be, perhaps, and I think is, probably two thirds as valuable as well-rotted stable manure, but it is quite impossible to tell without a careful trial. If water has flowed very rapidly or continuously through the pond, much valuable manurial matter must have been washed away. Still, much would probably remain that would make good manure when exposed to the air. A good way to use it would be by hauling it into large piles this fall, which should be turned over several times during the winter. I think it could then be used in the spring with safety and to advantage around young apple-trees.

BUTTER AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.
Dairy interests will have a big share in the World's Fair at Chicago. And it is time now for buttermakers to be making efforts to improve their product and keep the credit of making "the best butter in the world" where it belongs—in the United States.

At the Paris Exposition, the gold medal for butter was awarded to Moulton Bros., of Randolph, Vt. Wells, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color was used in this butter, and FARM AND FIRESIDE hazards the prediction that the best butter at Chicago in 1893 will be colored with this same Improved Color. The manufacturers offer to mail enough of this color to make 50 pounds of butter a June to any reader of the FARM AND FIRESIDE receipt of six cents in stamps. Write to us at Burlington, Vt., and get some of the hat was in the first-prize butter at Paris.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.
FROM NEBRASKA.—I live in Custer county, near Broken Bow, which is a rapidly growing village of 1,200 inhabitants. The soil is a rich, sandy loam, and produces 25 bushels of wheat, 40 bushels of oats, 40 bushels of corn per acre, and other grains in proportion. Land is worth from \$5 to \$20 per acre, according to distance from market. The Burlington road runs through the county, carrying out our grain and bringing in coal from the Black Hills.
H. G. D.
Broken Bow, Neb.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Lewis county is an inland empire in western Washington. About three fourths of it is the very richest of agricultural land, and well adapted to raising fruits. Italian prunes are raised here to perfection; apples, cherries and Bartlett pears produce abundantly; peaches and early grapes do well in some localities. Only about ten per cent of the land owned is cleared and cultivated; the balance is all heavy timber or swale land. Along the railroad, land is selling for from \$15 to \$250 per acre, according to quality and location; but here at Ferry, good land, partly improved, can be had for from \$10 to \$40 per acre. To give you some idea of the timber, I bought ten acres last spring, near the Ferry saw-mill, estimated by eastern men to have about 75,000 feet of lumber. I have cut and delivered 180,000 feet, and the same parties now think there are 75,000 feet yet standing. This is not good timber; plenty of land within a mile will give four times as much. Our timber is the best in the world for all general purposes—millions of feet are shipped to South America, Australia and China. Our cedar, for molding and shingles, is shipped to Chicago and elsewhere. This timber has been a drawback, but is turning out to be one of the greatest blessings to us and all mankind. We have a rich and pleasant land when the timber is off. What is swale land? Little valleys covered with alder-vine, maple and salmon brush. There is considerable vacant land yet, but it is what we call "way back"—one half mile from nearest neighbor and eight or ten miles from Ferry. Some could be bought at reasonable prices nearer; last year land could have been filed on within a mile from here. Water is good; in fact, could not be better, and one can hardly find a quarter section without one or more springs. Game is not very plenty; that is, deer and elk. The woods along creeks and rivers are full of bears, especially in the fall, after salmon. All streams are well supplied with fish, principally salmon, salmon trout and mountain trout. Our climate is moderate. Strawberries were ripe and in bloom in November. Our hottest day last summer did not reach much above 90°. The summer nights are cool; you need good blankets. In winter it is rarely 3° or 4° below zero. I have lived here nearly thirty years, and have seen it that cold but very few times.
K. B.
Ferry, Wash.

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Our Fireside.

LITTLE THINGS.

Often, little things we hear,
Often, little things we see,
Waken thoughts that long have slept
Deep down in our memory.

Strangely slight the circumstance
That has forced to turn the mind
Backward on the path of years,
To the loved scenes far behind!

'Tis the perfume of a flower,
Or a quaint old-fashioned tune;
Or a song-bird 'mid the leaves
Singing in a sunny June.

'Tis the evening star, mayhap,
In the gloaming silver bright;
Or a gold and purple cloud
Waning in the western light.

'Tis the rustling of a dress,
Or certain tone of voice,
That can make the pulse throb,
That can bid the heart rejoice.

Ah, my heart! But not of joy
Must alone my history tell,
Sorrow, shame and bitter tears
Little things recall as well.

—Chambers' Journal.

AUNT JACK'S SECRET.

BY MARY A. DENISON,

Author of "That Husband of Mine," "If She Will, She Will," Etc.

CHAPTER I.

WHAT SHE WAS.



IT WASN'T my fault that Jack Denerby married the butler. Girls will do such things, and when they do, why they must take the consequences.

Jack, or Jacquiline, never thought of that. The butler was handsome, very handsome, and possessed the outward semblance of a gentleman. Jack, as her people had always

called her, was only sixteen when she first saw him, a bud that promised marvelous sweetness and some beauty.

Did you ever see a white lily and a red rose in such close juxtaposition that they looked like one flower? That was Jack's complexion. The blending was something that an artist might try forever and never catch the trick. Or the smile, either. You watched for it, you angled for it, and when it came you reveled in its sweetness. Why? Because she had three dimples in each cheek. Surely, the gods had blessed her. There are so many girls born with not even one, you know.

It seems to be one of the eternal laws that a thing of beauty is an eternal joy. The inspiration of the poet and the painter, the eloquence of the orator and the pencil of the connoisseur have so taught the world for thousands of years. Even the Christian would fain believe that the face of the Christ wore a beauty beyond compare.

Jack's dimples were simply delicious. Just one will make an ordinary face piquant and enjoyable; but think of three disappearing, will o' the wisp fashion, and coming again like the dainty ripples of water that the tiniest pebble sets in motion.

But, after all, there is the terrible fact that she fell in love with the butler. Society men were angling for her. Men with fat millions that made their faces shine would have gone on their knees to her.

I know that several girls in society have lately made their choice, to the great sorrow of loving relations and gossiping friends, among the common habitues of blacksmith shops and stables, which do not make men any the worse than those mills that furnish daintily-mannered youth for the delectation of the social upper four hundred. Perhaps Jack thought of that. She saw whiter hands, more distinguished toilets, listened to better grammar, and then she was felled. She couldn't for the life of her see the color of their souls. She remembered that in an outburst of confidence a prominent man in society once said:

"The more I see of mankind the more I crave solitude;" but nobody asked why. Jack liked fun. It was a great pleasure to her to waltz with young Algernon Sydney, one of the most fastidious of fastidious young bloods, a man who could have given his cheek for fifty thousand with as much sang froid as one would hand a half dime to a beggar. Ah, but he could waltz! They made a beautiful pair, he with his dark, passionate eyes and crisp, black curls, she with orbs of heavenly blue, and hair that just fell short of flaxen, because of its glints of brown and gold.

But he lisped. He affected to adore her—perhaps he did—and addressed her always as

quiet, deep-thinking girl, who was always asking the reasons of things.

Mrs. McNab's parties were always very select. Her husband was General McNab, a man with a big head and a snub nose, a face which somehow gave one the impression of a likeness to a powerful bulldog after he has had his dinner and does not feel in the mood to bite the first man he sees. The general had a splendid war record, but one never would have dreamed of his brave exploits who saw him stand behind his wife. If he was a general in the field, she was generalissimo at home. He was rather commanding in his height, but she was taller than he, broader of shoulder, stouter of girth. It took a great many diamonds to go around her neck, but as she was immensely wealthy, that did not matter.

Can I describe the splendor of her house? No, I will not attempt it. Think of the wealth of color, the glory of art, the triumph of architecture and upholstery combined, of the most sumptuous palace of this or the old world; line some of the rooms with mirrors, others with marble and alabaster; hang pictures that cost their thousands here and there, not in inconspicuous places, but well-chosen niches and well-lighted recesses that have taxed an artist's time and ingenuity to originate; finish with silken tapestries fit for the crowned heads of the Orient, and you will have some idea of the general effect of this beautiful home.

Mrs. McNab was a woman of strong characteristics, excellent judgment, and knew just how to spend her money in both the adoru-

that in that half light that pervaded the nook, she, in her white lace and satin, her whiter hands clasped, seemed more like a statue in marble than a living girl of sixteen? Where was the soul in that motionless figure? Surely, not there. The very lashes that rested almost on her cheeks were motionless. Of what could she be thinking to sit so grave and passionless? Had she turned in at some devious path which, as she reviewed the past, she shuddered at pursuing? Should she lament, when too late, the rashness with which she had slighted the voice of experience and stifled the impulse of reason?

How beautiful she was! Clapsed hands, eyes nearly closed, a gravity on the arched lips that rarely sat there, for she was a creature of smiles and laughter; one could not help but pause, as did the honored member of the four hundred, startled and wondering as he came back. For once his heart beat with a smothered passion. He dreaded to break the silence, to wake this dazzling vision into life. "Your ice, Miss Denerby,"

"Oh, thank you." And she rose at once, coming out of her dream. "You seemed quite utterly lost," he said, as she arranged the tiny napkin he had brought and settled herself to the enjoyment of the ice. "I thought—I was thinking," she said, confusedly, a rare color deepening the faint crimson of her cheeks, making her altogether lovely as she half smiled.

A pretty boy in livery (Mrs. McNab called him a page) came in at that moment with a tray, on which were cake and a dish of salad. He drew a small table up, deposited his light burden upon it and went away.

"I thought after the fatigue of the dance—er—Miss Denerby," said Algernon, as he drew up a chair, "you would like something a little more substantial." He lisped, but lisping looks silly in print. The reader must be aware of this peculiarity, and supply the sibilant at the proper place for himself. "Dancing never fatigues me," said Jack; "it

His earnestness and passion had almost made a man of him. But Jack was fanning inwardly. Not at him. She could not but feel that this confession was a compliment to her. It confused and annoyed her, nevertheless. She hardly knew what to say.

"Oh, but Mr. Sydney, your love is misplaced. You must not think of me. Why, I am a poor girl—a farmer's daughter. But for my sister's marriage I never should have been here. I—I—"

"Oh, I know all that. I'm very glad you are poor, by Jove! You are rich enough, you see, in yourself," he said, with a great deal of emphasis; "and of course, you know, I am rich enough for both."

This last was an unfortunate allusion. It savored of coarseness. Jack, notwithstanding a life of luxury for years in the home of her wealthy brother-in-law, had not lost the fresh and honest feelings of an innocent country girl. No desire for selfish triumph silenced the better impulses of her nature. A man the possessor of and the heir to Here was the opportunity for an ascent that would enable her to vie the redoubtable Mrs. McNab hers were offered the world and all the thereof, without even the exertion to choose which she would enjoy. was not dazzled; she was rather Love, and love honest and true, a doubt of that, was lavishly poured in, and she could not accept it.

"Mr. Sydney," she said at last, honored me with your friendship, offer me more than that. Shall I say I am that I cannot accept your love? ask me to wait and consider. I hesitated, and I give you my final answer. It never can be."

"Never?" he said, and his voice fell. "Never!"

He drew a long breath and set it together hard.

"I must go and find my sister," she went silently out by her side.

"So you went into the lovers' night," her lovely elder sister said, at home, sitting well back in the carriage, their fur cloaks wrapped around them. "There were some remarks made."

"I don't see why there should be," quietly. "Besides, I didn't dream McNab had set a trap in her own catch the unwary."

"Oh, well, she calls it so, that's all," said sister, "and very foolishly, I think. But Algernon Sydney does really seem very attentive."

"He won't be so attentive after to-night," said Jack.

"Why not, pray?"

Her sister's eyes glittered, as Jack saw by a passing light.

"Because he asked me a question, and I said no."

"Good heavens, Jack! It can't be possible that you refused Algernon Sydney?" her sister almost shrieked.

"I certainly did," said Jack.

"Then I conclude that you have taken leave of your senses. He is ten times richer than my husband."

"His riches can't buy me," said Jack, quietly. A groan was the only answer. Mrs. Austin Margerie sank back in her seat. Inwardly

CHAPTER II.

WHERE THEY CAME FROM.

Perhaps this should have been chapter. It would have been, or to introduce my heroine surround glamour of wealth and station. knew her to be irresistible, and venture to hope I have imbued with a small share of my own!

In the western part of the state of Hampshire, not so many years fairly well-to-do New England name, Ellis Newland Denerby, early life received a good education, fitted for the law, but his health failing him, he had chosen to go back to the old home-stead. The farm was delightfully situated near the base of a mountain that lifted its granite shoulders high in the golden air, and from which, as far as the eye could reach, a succession of pictures, an inexhaustible profusion of beauty and sweetness, woke in the duldest mind sensations that language is tame to express.

The place went by the name of the "Lower Haven," simply because the farmer, who was as much a poet as a lawyer, had called it, in the presence of his friends, "my lower heaven. Nobody in the village believed him so wanting in reverence as to compare any place, however attractive, to that sacred wonder, with its streets of real gold and its gates of jasper and precious stones. So they kindly put the best interpretation on the farmer's erratic fancy, called it a haven of rest and beauty, and ever after the house went by that name.

Needless to say, Ellis Newland Denerby was not an extraordinary success as a farmer. How could he be with that name? You should have seen his white hands, his faultless attire, his library! The people of New England are all fairly educated. Let the soil be ever so rocky, the storms ever so frequent, that little red school-house in the open, without sign of tree or shade, is always well filled. But Denerby was a graduate of Harvard, slender, aristocratic in his bearing, handsome and haughty. Being a proud man he had enemies, but nevertheless he was looked up to, as in older countries the squire is venerated on account of his exaltation above the so-called common herd.

His wife had not consented very willingly to the change from city to country life. She had been reared in affluence, and to her those square, low-ceiled rooms, the small porches, the rustic furniture were things simply to be endured for the sake of her husband and his consumptive tendencies.

At first she tried bravely to put a good face on the matter, but the monotony of the life



ment of herself and her house. The great ball-room was riotous of light—a living fluid of white moonlight, intensified to the stronger luster of the sun, made the women more beautiful and their dresses snperb. It was electric light that was yet soft and luminous. Down this room floated Jack and Algernon Sydney, once and again, and once more. The music was heavenly, Jack thought. The waltz was a new one, somewhat involved, softly slow, like the Lydian measures of yore. Nothing could be imagined more graceful as the rhythmic melody and the gliding languor went hand in hand, and everybody who was not dancing had eyes only for those two, as they glided on, flushed and smiling.

There are many opportunities for conversation, as every one knows, in this gentle, dream-like dance, but Jack could only remember that her partner said these words:

"Isn't it warm?"

Perhaps he was reflecting, gathering courage for what happened afterwards, for as they stopped dancing and walked across the room, every eye following them, he asked, with a pathetic gesture, if she would like an ice.

"Very much, thanks," she answered; "and if you don't mind bringing it, I will go in the little room, here, next to the conservatory."

"Why not in the conservatory?" he made reply.

"Oh, no; the flowers are too fragrant; they sicken me so near," she said. And he placed her on a lounge in one of the cosiest little retreats in Mrs. McNab's big house.

Why, when her escort had gone, did she in-

only fatigues me when I can't dance," she added, laughing. The dimples set young Sydney beside himself.

"One might fancy so, you dance with such exquisite ease, bah Jove. Do you know you are the only girl in our set that I really care to dance with?"

"I ought to feel complimented then," said Jack, balancing her spoon as she spoke, on her white forefinger. "They tell me you are the best dancer in—shall I say your set?" And she looked in his eyes with an amused smile.

"Say our set, Miss Denerby, and I'm much obliged to 'em," I'm sure." Then he plunged into sentiment and salad at the same moment.

"Miss Denerby, I'm in love!"

"Oh, Mr. Sydney! You?" And the surprise pictured on her face was genuine.

"Yes, Miss Denerby, so deeply in love that I'm almost afraid to say it to myself, let alone to its object."

"Mr. Sydney, you should have more courage," said Jack, placing her saucer on the table. She really felt that it was time to go, though she did not connect this declaration with herself, only it seemed strange and rather out of taste that he should make her his confidante. All this she realized in rather a dreary way. It was past two by the little clock on the mantelpiece, and she was tired.

"But, Miss Denerby, don't rise, don't go—when I have just—well, unbosomed myself to you. Give me a little hope."

This he said with the air of a man who feels that no one could possibly refuse him and his millions.

"Give you hope, Mr. Sydney? Why, you can't possibly mean—you can't—"

"I can and I do mean you, dear Miss Denerby, upon my soul and body I mean you! I feel as if life would be valueless without you; I do, upon my word. You are the light of my life, the one vision of my dreams. Ever since I first saw you, Miss Denerby, I have been another man. That is, in a great many things. I am not the same man I was before. I mean I am completely and totally changed. Oh, Miss Denerby, don't go, at least till you give

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was distasteful and irksome in the extreme. The pale, pretty woman made an effort towards country thrift, but nothing seemed to prosper under her hands. The butter obstinately refused to come, and the bread was simply something terrible.

But for farmer Spruce and his energetic wife everything would have gone to ruin. Fortunately, Spruce offered to take the farm on shares, and his amiable wife suggested, with much stammering, that as the house was a large one, a portion should be divided off for them, and she would gladly superintend in the kitchen for both families.

"She ain't good for nothin' but to set 'round in her pink an' white gowds and see to them two children," said the rugged Areminta, as she swung the kettles on the black crane in the big kitchen fireplace, and oh, how black and sooty the crane and the chimney were! "It's jest my delight to work in a kitchen like this."

"They're nither of 'em no more fitted to work," said farmer Spruce, "than them two on the birch-tree out there," saying he sat down on a hot batch of short-cake his wife had deposited on the table till she could swing the crane back, and with a yell that would have made Comaheo Indian.

"Id didn't ye look?" shouted Areminta, caught up the dilapidated iron into shape. "You've baked a batch, and it was for nothin' but to think it was half a short-cake."

"It's on that settle, Minty," said the farmer, looking to look at the ruin he had accomplished.

"Well, do, do, bake another for them. I can eat this one," said farmer Spruce, "I'll jest have to break it up and put the best foot forward," said his wife, sulking the action to the word.

"It isn't often as it is broke up," she said, in the neat speech she had prepared as she went into the dining-room, "but an accident happened to the cake. It's quite as good, however, only not quite so puffed out as usual."

"That don't matter, Mrs. Spruce," said the farmer, looking up from his book. "Pride that puffeth up, you know, is always sure to have a fall."

"Oh, it didn't fall, but Hiram, he—oh," and she began to cough—"he looked at it, you know, and—" She kept on coughing, her red cheeks blazing furiously.

"Oh, you left it for him to look after," laughed Mr. Denerby, good-naturedly. "Men are terribly unhandy though, you know. Witness myself, for instance."

"Yes, sir," said the woman, quietly. "Mrs. Denerby would never let me hold the baby, who generally contrived to get its head where its feet ought to be before I knew it. Bless me, I wonder babies don't die of congestion of the brain!"

The meal was partaken of in good faith, but farmer Spruce kept out of the way for a week, for fear Mr. Denerby would ask him what had happened to the cake.

Mrs. Denerby made few acquaintances, and was not generally liked among the townspeople. She could not shake herself free of her natural reserve. Her delicate manners were a part of herself, but the matrons and maidens put them down against her as pride.

"Seems as if she thought the sun and moon and stars was just made for her," said one of the well-to-do dames to her crou, as they came out of the black-shingled meeting-house one Sunday.

"She was purty well brought up," was the response.

The other replied with a sniff: "So was I, but I wouldn't be stuck up about it. No, it's plain to be seen that she looks down on us."

"You and I are country folks, you know," said the other, "and she was educated in the city."

"I should like to know how that makes her any better?" said the other, hotly.

"It don't, but it makes her different. My Tom knows all about it. Tom's a lawyer, and lawyers generally know a little of everything. Her father was counted awfully rich when Miss Denerby was a girl. He gave her the most splendid wedding that ever was heard of, and the next day shot himself through the head. When they come to find out, he hadn't a livin' cent to his name. Poor little soul! Just think what a shock it was to his daughter! They say she's never got over it, and one can't wonder. So you and I, whose relations have all died in their beds like good Christians, mustn't blame the poor creature, because she looks to the nerves, they say, is worse than fevers."

If to be happy at home is the ultimate result of all ambition, as Johnson says, then were the inmates of the Lower Haven supremely blessed. Both Mr. and Mrs. Denerby lived in their affections. They loved each other devotedly, and the children rounded their little world, to which no care came when the door was shut and the duties of the day accomplished. Then the brisk wood fire, the lovely lamp with its shade of creamy satin painted with forget-me-nots, the children at their father's knees or laughing in merry pastime in which both parents joined, were a sight to see. The children never forgot those hours.

Who of us, grown old and gray in the service of the world, can forget the glad looks of household love? Why, the game of Cat in the Cradle, the push and riot of Puss in the Corner, the memory of how roast apples smell, and the nutty flavor of the pitcher full of home-made cider—are they not as fresh in the mind of four score as if they had been luxuries of yesterday? I am glad there are countries from which the glowing chimney backs, the ancient settle and the oaken beams overhead were made to last for centuries; where backlogs will never be wanting, and honest, rustic love may prove that glorious souls are often hidden under hodge-noddy.

The lively and capable Mrs. Spruce, with her fat cheeks and double chin that shook like jelly whenever she moved, sometimes found it difficult to place the requisite food on the table, for here stood some violets shedding their perfumed breath over the nose of a broken pitcher; near by that was a gorgeous cluster of pinks, and beside them a mammoth bouquet of wild flowers.

"Ellis found them, you know," Mrs. Denerby would say, with a smile, "and he likes flowers on the table."

"But so many!" says the perplexed farmer's wife.

"Well, you know 'twould never do not to let the children contribute their little mite. They always want their flowers put on the table, 'same as papa's,' you know, and really, that cluster of pinks, which I found almost hidden under some plantain leaves, takes up so little room! You might put the cake on the side table. I'll see to it."

So with a look of unutterable incredulity Mrs. Spruce waddles over to the other end of the room and leaves the dinner-table to the flowers.

Both children were remarkably beautiful. Jack, or Jaquiline, was the youngest, and when I say she was fair as the fairest rosebud, I have said all. Nestonia, or Nest, as the elder fledgling was called, had that severe perfection

of feature which artists love, and even in her sixth year knew how to compel respect. Her little lips were set with pride if any one proffered a caress on too brief an acquaintance. Her manner of withholding and withdrawing was even then queenly.

While Jack frolicked about her father, Nest walked calmly by his side. They all three came out together in the early day to see how the morning-glories fared, and after breakfast the gentleman farmer went on a tour of inspection. The barn was gravely scanned, the stock carefully looked over, suggestions were made to Spruce, who listened deferentially, laughing in his sleeve all the time. If there was a new litter of pigs, or a calf who had come since yesterday, the children were in ecstasies, and had to run and fetch mamma, who, all in pink and white, came daintily tripping over the grass to see the newcomers. Like all gentle, large-hearted women, every young and helpless thing was a delight to her.

There were four years of difference in the ages of the children. Sweet and docile in the home circle, they almost resented the interference of strangers, and never could or did make companions of the neighboring farmers' children. As for the latter, they derided the city ways and toilets of the Lower Haven inmates, not aware that Mrs. Denerby's wedding trousseau did duty for all the unusually pretty and tasteful dresses her little daughters wore, both at school and church. A wardrobe imported from Paris at the expense of thousands of dollars is likely to do good service for years, and in this case the benefits of all the splendid costumes made over in plainer fashion accrued to the children.

When Jack was six and Nest ten years old, their father took their education entirely into his own hands. He was well fitted for the task, and the happiest hours of his life were those in which his little students sat with him in his study, a large room that ran across the whole building, and gathered the crumbs that his wisdom let fall.

Meantime, the wife and mother knew that she was dying, but kept the knowledge to herself. Slowly, surely, under the folds of those soft-eling garments, which she wore so gracefully, a deadly enemy was at work at the fountain of her life. How it came that they all gathered about her bed one sunny July day, to see her die, they could scarcely tell. Nest was fifteen, and had for some time taken the lesser household cares upon her pretty shoulders. She noticed that her mother's cheeks flushed, now and then, a riotous crimson, but that generally she was pale and quiet. Whenever she spoke of it, however, the serene smile and quiet answer seemed to imply that all was well; so that on that fatal day the blow came as comes the thunder out of a clear sky—utterly unexpected.

"My darling," her husband sobbed as she lay there so motionless, so white, "what has happened? I knew you were not well, but now, oh, whom shall I send for?"

"No one, love," was the quiet answer. "I have known for years how it would end for me. In my childhood the doctor predicted an early death, and I have lived so long," she said, with failing voice, "and have—been—so—happy!"

"So happy!" the last words she ever spoke in life, and the heart that had braved so much was still forever.

CHAPTER III.

IN THE LOVED PRESENCE OF MY COTTAGE FIRE.

A pretty little woman, small almost to diminutiveness, moved noiselessly from room to room in the Lower Haven farm-house, and as if by magic everything her hand touched resolved itself into order and beauty. She was the great-aunt of the little Denerbys on the mother's side, and had offered her services (having been left a widow with a very small income) soon after the death of her niece, to the great relief of the almost heart-broken widower, whose life had been so early and sadly clouded.

When Aunt Mary Stepwick came the children were impressed in her favor by her wonderful likeness to their dead mother. She possessed, in a remarkable degree, the faculty of winning both the respect and affection of those with whom she came in daily contact.

Mr. Denerby gave up to her the entire care of the children, with the exception of the time they spent in his study, over their lessons, and withdrew himself more and more from the little world that surrounded him. In fact, he became a recluse and held communication only with honest farmer Spruce, with whom he felt it necessary to make a show of mastery for the sake of appearances.

Aunt Mary Stepwick proved herself accomplished in many ways. Not only was she scrupulously careful in forming the habits of her pretty little nieces, but she made their gowns and bonnets with marvelous skill and neatness, and had always on hand the most delicate lace knitting and embroidery, so that the little maids were still quoted by the less-favored children of the neighborhood, who envied them their grace, elegance and beauty, as "those stuck-up little Denerbys."

Aunt Mary herself was a pattern of neatness. Her fair little face, framed in by white hair whose every silvery curl stirred and brightened with living beauty, shone under the very daintiest of dainty lace caps. The children followed her from room to room and were never happier than when gathered about her of pleasant evenings, they listened to her stories or joined with her in merry games. Was it to rain to-morrow? They asked her, and if she said yes, rain it did. It was curious the gift she had of foretelling events.

"Don't go under that tree," she said one evening, pointing out a large chestnut that looked healthy and green. "It will fall some day." Sure enough, one morning it was found a prone giant on the ground. There had been no storm, no wind; it was simply rotted through the trunk. When asked how she knew it was going to fall, she only answered, "I seemed to see it falling."

So in one or two instances she saved them from peril in other shapes, and they began to listen to her predictions with a sort of awe.

"I wanted to write you," she said, one rainy evening, after the children had gone to bed and she and her nephew had the fire all to themselves, "only I feared you would think me meddling and superstitious, but I knew, or felt, rather, that Lily was going to die weeks before she was taken away."

"You knew it?" he said, looking at her with reproachful eyes. "Then why did you not tell me? I should have been prepared."

"I didn't think you would," she said quietly, going on with her knitting; "you would have called me a croaker and thought no more about it. I have learned wisdom in those matters. People don't thank you for such information."

"But how did you know?" he asked, eagerly. "It was simply born in upon my mind; a sort of second sight that staid by me night and day, so that in the morning I said there is so much time left, and counted the days off as one would drop the beads of a rosary, when I went to bed at night."

"Singular! Singular!" repeated the lonely man. Then, all suddenly he brightened, and sat upright in his chair.

"Aunt Mary, will you do me a favor?" he asked.

She looked at him without answering, at once conscious of what the question would be. "If you foresee my death, will you tell me?" She shook her head.

"You ask too much," she said. "But don't think it will frighten me," he returned, in all earnestness. "I could welcome death at any moment. Since she left me, what do I care for life? My duties grow irksome day by day. I long for her as the souls in purgatory must long for heaven. We were always together. She grew to be part and parcel of my very soul. I am lost, lost without her."

He put both hands to his face and with a deep sob fell back again in his chair.

"Her voice, how I listen for it!" he went on, passionately. "I get by myself, and it seems as if my longing must touch her as with living fingers. God help me! I have even dared to think of—" A deep, quick shudder ran through his limbs shaking him from head to foot.

"And do you imagine that would please her?" Aunt Mary asked.

"Then you know what I meant? No, for I might lose her forever," was the low reply.

"Yes, there would be that danger," said the little lady, letting her work fall in her lap. Then she commenced trembling, grew pale, held up her hands as if putting something away from her.

"No—" she said or gasped—"not now, not here. Another time! oh, leave me! leave me!"

Denerby sprang from his chair. The whole aspect of the woman had changed. In spite of her ejaculations, which had been uttered as with a growing excess of agony, she seemed to yield herself to some unknown power. Grayer and whiter grew cheek and lip. The head fell slightly on one side; long sighs escaped the lips, and presently to his startled consciousness, came a voice like, yet unlike his own, the voice of his wife.

"Ellis, my love!" it said, "come here. I have something to say to you."

Moving, like one in a dream, the man sat down again, and drew his chair nearer to the still figure. As he chanced to look up he saw the minute hand of the clock pointing to a quarter of twelve, and a strange thrill ran through his veins. More and more, minute by minute, grew the likeness in the face before him to that of his dead wife.

"Ellis, dear, it is only a step out beyond your little world. You are very lonely, love, but remember what I say. I am as near you as I ever was, and my love for you has grown a thousand fold. Ellis, listen! You must be father and mother to our little ones. Don't neglect them. You are to stay till they are grown to womanhood. Aunt Mary will do all she can, but remember, you are their father. If you grow impatient or listless, bear in mind that I am right beside you, just as much alive as I ever was; more, for life without pain is one eternal delight, and only now am I beginning to comprehend what a splendid boon human existence is. Your words just now made me shudder, even here. *Dare not destroy one thread of that matchless web called human life, or God knows whether we would ever meet again!*"

The words rang through the silent room; his wife's words, his wife's very face, looking into his. He could have sworn, half-dazed and awestruck as he was, that his wife sat there before him, the light of another world in her countenance. Hardly did he dare draw a breath, so great was his terror, and yet it was a terror mixed with delight. He cried out to her with extended arms, as the face gradually changed and the sleeper awoke.

"Oh, what have I been doing?" cried Aunt Mary, in despairing agitation. "I never meant to. I tried so hard to resist it but she was more powerful than I. Now, you will send me away," and the tears gathered in her eyes.

"Why should I?" he asked, controlling himself with a powerful effort. "Why send you away?"

"Because of this strange gift which I have kept concealed for years. What did I say? I knew nothing; she was too strong for me. I saw her bending over your chair, caressing you, and once looking in her eyes, cost me my self-control."

"You saw her—my darling! Here, hear me?" he cried, his voice dry and troubled, yet a wild joy in his eyes.

"Yes, as plainly as I see you. She had one arm about your neck. Well," she gathered up her knitting, "of course you won't want me to stay—now—and—I love the children so dearly!" she half sobbed.

"Stop! don't go," he said, detaining her as the clock struck, "do you think this will ever happen again?"

"Perhaps not; at all events not with my consent," she said, chokingly.

"Aunt Mary, I would willingly lose all I possess rather than have missed this wonderful experience, rather than not have seen my wife as I saw her just now."

"What! you saw her, too?" she asked, surprise getting the better of her fears.

"I did—in your face," was the low, almost solemn reply.

There was silence as the two looked at each other.

"Then," she said at last, "you are not angry?"

"Why should I be? This gift must be from God. Within these few moments I have become a new man. Never again will the infamous thought of suicide enter my mind. My wife still sees me. Her presence penetrates my very soul. SHE is here! she is mine, still!" he cried, a triumphant ring in his voice. "Why, it seems to me I shall never mourn again. I have been a poor, weak coward. I shall henceforth be a man, and wait God's time. I shall never forget the tone of her voice when she said that 'life without pain is one eternal delight.' Dear soul! she suffered so much without a murmur."

"I am thankful you are not angry, nor frightened," Aunt Mary said, the old gladness in her face. "Some people, I know, would not tolerate my acquaintance—a moment after learning of the strange—I was going to say calamity that attends on me, but perhaps gifts is better. Indeed, sometimes, I heartily wish it would leave me. I have no desire for it. It comes and goes without the aid of my will, and I have tried to keep it a profound secret."

"You need not be troubled on my account," said her nephew. "I am satisfied and shall never wish to call my darling back again. Let her rest. I know now that she is waiting for me."

With that he lighted his candle and went up stairs to his room, a singular exaltation in his countenance. Aunt Mary followed him, and going from her own apartment into still another sleeping-room, looked lovingly upon the occupants of the two little white beds, from each of which a beautiful face seemed smiling even in sleep.

"My precious darlings!" she murmured, "it would have broken my heart to go away. Oh, how good and kind and great he is! So few in this superstitious age but would have censured me for what I can neither avert nor explain. I wish I could," she added almost passionately, as she went back to her own room, which was as pretty and bright and comfortable as it had

been in the palmiest days of the homestead, when its little mistress moved around like a shadow, suffering but concealing her pain. No less did this woman who followed in her footsteps strive to conceal the singular moods that sometimes came over her, unawares. The children should never know it if she could help it. So day after day and year after year they grew in brightness and beauty. Jack the embodiment of fun and roughness. Nest all gravity and dignity, until the latter was nineteen and little Jack, almost as tall, had attained her fifteenth year.

"And a prettier pair," said Mrs. Spruce, the farmer's wife, talking in a confidential way to a neighbor, who had come in the big kitchen and sat near the fire, a coarse, blue sock on the needles she plied, while she listened, "it would be hard to find. How them children amuse themselves by themselves, I don't know. They never go out to parties, and have no company but their two selves. It's all very well, perhaps, but what they goin' to do in the future coming days is a mystery to me. There's nobody here they'd deign to look at, and as for marrying the young men about this place, Mr. Denerby, bless his dear heart, would go into fits to think of it. There's no danger, however, for they ain't them kind that's dependent upon beaus, and as for love and marriage, I don't s'pose it ever entered their pretty heads."

"P'raps their father'll take 'em to the city," said the neighbor, as she busily narrowed the toe of the blue sock with white yarn.

"Not he; he hates the city, from what I've heard him say, and I ruther think he don't want the girls to marry, even sayin' there should be their equals to propose. It's a kind of unnatural way, in my mind, to bring up daughters, but then, as my man often says, there never was an unpracticable man than Mr. Denerby, and he don't see how he has managed to live in this sort of a world, for heaven, apparently, is his home."

"They haven't felt the loss of their mother much, the little un's," said the neighbor, complacently, as she toed off.

"No, indeed, Miss Mary is as good as she can be, if she do hev' fits," was the answer.

"What?" and her visitor sat straight up, so roused by this bit of news that she lost three of the finishing stitches.

"Well, what I take to be sich," said Mrs. Spruce, hovering about the oven, whose foundation of red brick was revealed through the gray stucco that had been laid on the rough walls of the kitchen. "I mean that I have seen her in a half alive, catatonic state, once or twice, during which, apparently, you might stick darning-needles in her to their eyes, and she'd never know it. I call them fits."

"She's not the proper one then for the care of children," said the neighbor, falling to the task of catching up the stitches she had lost, with great labor of breath and much distortion of countenance.

"I guess they don't know it," said Mrs. Spruce, as she lifted three brown loaves from the oven. "They're just devoted to her. Just put ten or fifteen years on the young woman that died, and Miss Mary is her livin' image. They're a mighty happy family, they are, and the squire, he's as lively as any of them. They don't want no beaus, them girls, though it do seem agin' nater."

"They'll be married fast enough," was the sententious remark of her neighbor, who, having put in the last stitch, rolled up her knitting and left with as little ceremony as she had come.

[To be continued.]

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sufficient sugar. Some housekeepers add a little candied orange peel, about two oranges to the quantity here given, and a few seeded raisins, when the pies are made up. Let the mince-meat stand in the store-closet shelf, or on a cool shelf in the cellar to "ripen" for at least three weeks before it is made up into pies. It should be kept as near the freezing point

blue ribbon, that one cannot find the heart to burn, for read them when you will the same feeling returns. A doleful, hurtful letter were better never written, and though one can consign the letter to the flames, it is hard to feel the words cannot be burned out of memory also. "It is unkind to make of thy friend's

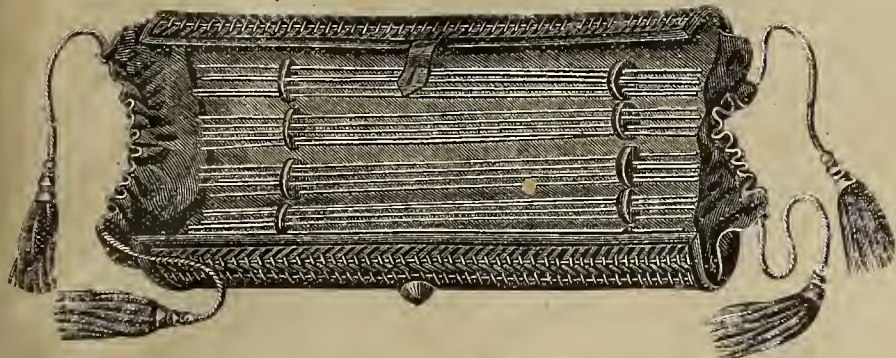


FIG. 1.—KNITTING-NEEDLE CASE.—OPEN.

as possible. This mince-meat makes delicious pies without the addition of any brandy or sherry.

CRISS-CROSS.

If you stick a stick across a stick,
Or stick a cross across a stick,
Or cross a stick across a stick,
Or stick a cross across a cross,
Or cross a cross across a stick,
Or cross a cross across a cross,
Or stick a cross stick across a crossed stick,
Or cross a crossed stick across a cross,
Or cross a crossed stick across a stick,
Or cross a crossed stick across a crossed stick,
Would that be an acrostic?

LETTER-WRITING.

LOUISE LONG CHRISTIE.

"L-e-t-t-e-r W-r-i-t-i-n-g," spelled out a sturdy little fellow roaming through the second floor of the Arcade at Chautauqua. "Letter-writing! Pooh, who don't know how to write letters?" sneered he at his companions, and they all answered, "Pooh! who don't?" And with a laugh pursued their investigations further on in the clay-modeling room, thinking they had settled, at least, one of the momentous questions at Chautauqua. Many older ones reading the sign on the door felt it was very queer if Chautauqua had provided some one to write letters home to those who had not come; but to the enterprising few who ventured to find out what it meant, was revealed treasures before unknown. At first, I must confess, a feeling was very apt to come over one, of shame, that any one should think them incapable of knowing how to write a letter; but before the first ten lessons were completed we were greedy for the second ten, and were forced to say there was more comprised in the subject than one could possibly have dreamed of.

As a study, the value of it can be appreciated when we think of the billions of letters written each year, and its power for good or evil. No talent is so susceptible of cultivation, and our letters should occupy some time and thought, entering as they do into all the occurrences of every-day life.

In nothing are we judged so keenly, nothing exposes us so quickly to the contempt of the world or the pity of our friends, as to break some unwritten rule of courtesy or etiquette in our letter-writing.

It is such an essential in education that it would be well if it were introduced into our public schools as a special study—as well as penmanship.

How a sentence in a letter has made you happy for days, or grieved.

"You know what a need one has of friendly words, when one is alone and far away."

Letters of polished writers seem like a visit from them; just the sight of their penmanship sends a flutter through one's heart, and to read the words written is so like their conversation that you feel you have seen them.

The penmanship is nothing; it is the picture of yourself in your letter; the heart motive, which is like the perfume of the flower—unseen, yet so perceptible that closing the eyes one can, with the imagination, call even the perfume back. In everyone's desk is a bunch tied up with

heart a convenient cushion, in which to be always sticking pins and needles of fretful complaint." So why write a fretful letter?

Of all things inexcusable is the one parsimonious habit some people have of using postal cards for quite lengthy expressions of family news, etc., to a friend. I think they never were meant for anything but brief business or brief messages, but in these days of cheap postage, cheap paper and everything else, it is better to pay two cents and write what you have to say under the privacy of an envelope. Some one says "it is like screaming across a street," and I quite agree with them. One need not be lengthy. "It does not take a long time to be true and sincere of heart, and one may be as courteous in a few lines as in a whole volume." Apologies are always superfluous when given at length. This one from Mendelssohn is brief and pointed:

"Should this piece of paper turn red, it would but show the reflection of my face covered with blushes, for I feel so ashamed."

"I have written you, in intention, fifty letters."

CHARLES DICKENS.

Every letter is entitled to some kind of an answer.

There are people who, by some change of circumstances, get into a much higher plane of life than they were born to, who can deceive even the most penetrating until they write them a letter; in that the mask drops and reveals their true self.

And not to answer a letter at all! Remember, "Hearts have been broken by letters that were never written." "The hours are long upon the dial of a waiting heart." And after all, "ashes tell no tales," so commit all thy letters to the secrecy of the flames.

There are teachers now in the art of letter-writing, so let me advise you to avail yourself of them, for there is no accomplishment equal to that of being able to write pleasant things.

CHILDREN'S FASHIONS.

With the return of the chilly season, dresses for little girls are made considerably longer in the skirt, whether to afford more complete protection to the children's delicate limbs, or whether in blind obedience to fashion's dictates arbitrarily lengthening all gowns for ladies, the presiding genius of children's dress does not tell us.

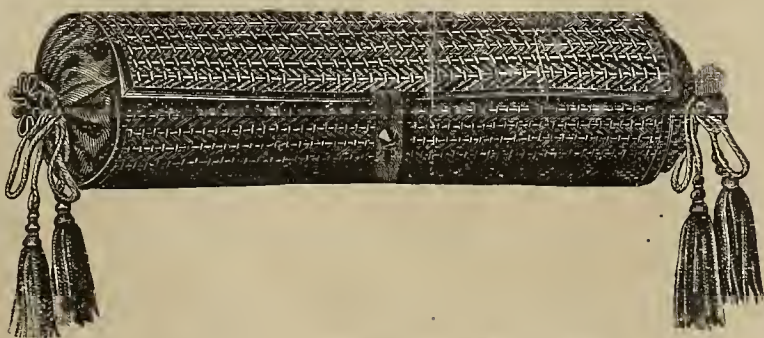


FIG. 2.—KNITTING-NEEDLE CASE.—CLOSED.

One of the favorite costumes for little girls is a black slip over a gay-colored guimpe, the latter in scarlet, orange, sky blue, or canary yellow. Even little golden-haired girls wear this gorgeous combination of black and orange.

Sometimes, however, especially for party dresses, this method of combination is reversed, and over a black China silk tucked guimpe is worn a gay net slip in any of the colors named above. A black ribbon brought under the arms and tied high in front defines the short "baby"

waist, and black butterfly bows on the shoulders set it off daintily.

Dressed in this style, a party of children look like a group of gorgeous butterflies; the white muslin and blue ribbon stage has vanished into the past for them, as well as for older exponents of fashion.

For play dresses, camel's hair and tweeds in blues and grays are made up in a single piece, with full waist and gathered or plaited skirt, preferably the latter. Sashes of the dress material are sometimes added, but leather belts and sashes of narrow ribbons are preferred by girls over ten years of age.

Cloaks for the little tots are in Gretchen, Mother-Hubbard and peasant styles, with ornamentations of velvet in the shape of short jackets, yokes, pointed half-girdles, hoods and sleeve-caps. Light-colored fancy cloths, creams, faience blues, browns, tans and grays are trimmed with darker shades of velvet to correspond.

Older girls wear long, coat-shaped cloaks with less fanciful garnitures, and for young misses the favorite styles are half-long pelisses for dressy wear, and jackets for all ordinary occasions.

Children's hats are wide-brimmed felts in dark and light colors. They are low-crowned, with profuse garnitures of ribbons bowed up, rosetted and arranged in long-drawn-out, pinned-down loops. Some hats for smallest girls are loaded with ostrich tips. Girls approaching their teens wear a modified Alpine hat of dark or light felt, or if they wear the wide-brimmed hats, then they are caught up and shaped in the brim to give them a more picturesque effect.

The Bebe fashion of gathered bodices has come in again. They have yoke pieces of lace or embroidery tied with ribbon straps on the shoulders, and the gathers are plaited sheaf-like below the waist, with a shaped band of ribbon terminating at the back in long bows and ends. This style is particularly becoming to youthful

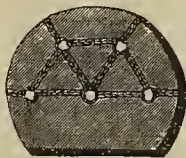


FIG. 3. PASTEBOARD NEEDLE-HOLDER. FULL SIZE.

faces, and is most picturesque when worn with a large hat tied under the chin. A new color has come out that has been much adopted by those who dress well; it is called pinetli, and is of a yellowish-green hue, and rather too daring to be becoming.

Some very pretty bonnets are quite covered with fruit, currants and cherries being considered most *chic* for autumn wear. They are rather difficult to arrange gracefully. Currants are laid on the brim in a kind of wreath, and cherries are worn in bunches, both being intermixed with black velvet ribbon or dainty lace. The newest way of arranging hat-strings is not to let them come in a straight angle from the back, but to fasten them at the side, so that they pass straight down behind the ears. This mode is rather trying to any but young faces, which, however, carry it off with much grace.—*Delineator*.

SOME FANCY CANDIES FOR THE FARMER'S HOUSEHOLD.

Many country housewives would be glad to make fancy candies at home for the children, it being an amusement for the long winter nights; but not having fine flavoring, chocolate, cocoanuts and other expensive ingredients at hand, think it is not possible for them to do so.

In every farm or country home very dainty candies can be made, with material which is always to be had, without cost. The following recipes will all be found very nice, economical and easily made.

WALNUT CARAMELS.—Take two pounds of sugar, a pound of walnut meats pounded fine and one teacupful of cream; stew slowly until thick, add a tablespoonful of butter. Set off the fire; when partly cool, form in little cakes and lay on buttered plates until cold.

WALNUT DROPS.—One pound of walnut meats, half a pound of sugar, the white of one egg; cook all together, roll in balls and set to cool on buttered plates.

HONEY CANDY.—Take one pint of sugar, two tablespoonfuls of water, half a pint of strained honey. Boil until brittle. Pull when cool.

POP-CORN CANDY.—Boil one cupful of sugar with half a cupful of water and one teaspoonful of butter; cook until it threads and stir in two quarts of pop-corn, mix well and make in balls.

HICKORY-NUT MACAROONS.—Pound to a paste half a pound of hickory-nut kernels, add one pound of sugar and the whites of three eggs; work well together with the back of a spoon, dip the hands in water and roll the mixture into small balls, making the outside smooth. Set in a cool place. These macaroons, if properly made, are as dainty as almond macaroons.

HICKORY-NUT CANDY.—Take two cupfuls of sugar and half a cupful of water, and boil until thick. Stir in one cupful of hickory-nut meats, pour in a large, flat dish. When partly cool, mark off in squares.

HICKORY-NUT DROPS.—Take two cupfuls of sugar, one egg, two tablespoonfuls of

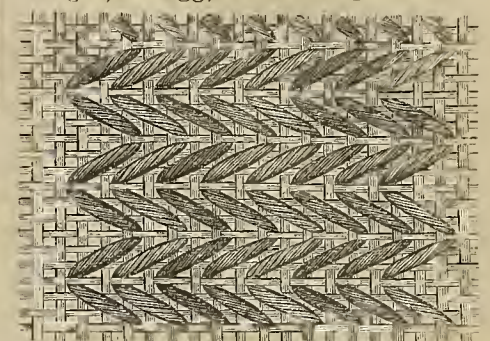


FIG. 4.—FOUNDATION OF KNITTING-NEEDLE CASE.—FULL SIZE.

flour, a cupful of hickory-nut kernels sliced fine; mix and drop on buttered tins.

HICKORY-NUT STICK CANDY.—Take a pound of sugar, a pint of water and the white of an egg, mix and let stand half an hour, then boil five minutes; skim and boil until thick; take from the fire, mix in a pound of hickory-nut meats, pour on a buttered dish; when cool, mark off in flat sticks, and when cold, break apart.

ELIZA R. PARKER.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

"Little Men," "Little Women," "Eight Cousins," "Rose in Bloom," "Old-fashioned Girl," by Louisa M. Alcott; "The New Year's Bargain," "What Katy Did," "What Katy Did Next," by Susan Coolidge; "Bed-time Stories," "More Bed-time Stories," by Louise Chandler Moulton; "Hans Brinker," by Mary Mapes Dodge; "The Trotty Books," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps; "Quinnebasset Girls," by Sophia May; "Jackanapes," by Juliana Horatio Ewing; "We Girls," "Leslie Goldthwaite's Summer," by Adeline D. T. Whitney; "Sarah Crewe," by Frances Hodgson Burnett; "In His Name," by Edward Everett Hale; "Alice in Wonderland," "Through the Looking Glass," "Dear Daughter Dorothy," "The Elsie Books," "A Queer Little Princess," "Dollikins and the Miser," "Little He and She," "Deb and the Duchess," "Swanhilde," "Dab Kinzer," "The Quartette."

A PROTEST.

If you have any artistic sensibility, or believe your friends have, don't—at this blessed Christmas time, or any time—make gifts of such unsightly, useless things as hand-painted or decorated shovels, spades, butter-bowls or water-buckets, believing they will delight or rest the eye. Keep in mind the old maxim, "A place for everything and everything in its place;" and do not have such things in the family sitting-room. While a gourd dipper may look pretty hanging on the sideboard in the dining-room, silently telling of the clear, cool spring where it served last summer, a gilded, beribboned spade standing in the front hall does not produce any such pleasant sensation. Instead, one instantly feels the absurdity of its being there.

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Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE MORNING.

Sing we of the morning—
Waiting for the Lord,
Comes he earth adorning,
By his hosts adored.

Joyful, thrilling moment,
When we Christ descry,
With his mighty angels
In the shining sky!

Coming in his glory,
Gathering his own;
Saints to life awakening,
As he takes his throne.

Turn from every idol,
Serve the Lord with fear!
Sooner than we're dreaming
May his sign appear.

Sing we of the morning;
See the buds of spring!
Know the summer cometh
Swift on balmy wing!

—E. C. P., in *Messiah's Herald*.

SATISFYING DOCTRINE.

It is asserted that the desire for immortality has largely died out from the human race. M. Myers, in the June "Report of the Society of Psychical Research," affirms that what man wants is the assurance of personal happiness after death. Whether this be a true indication or not of the prevalent desire of man, it is certain that former conceptions of a future state are rapidly dying out. In this busy world, where intellect collides with intellect, where present thought and activity are to the front, the old ideas of an eternal dreamy ecstatic state can find little acceptance. The theological heaven is mainly built up on the lines of old-world dreamings, so offer no attractions to men of active life and thought, who wish to find solutions to problems which puzzle them, and who desire to see a better state of things wrought out here.

To such we recommend the Bible doctrine of the kingdom, read without the interpretations which have served to rob it of its applicability to human needs. Therein is to be found the true doctrine of immortality; that this is not a possession of humanity by birth, but a gift to be conferred upon those who will accept it upon divinely revealed terms, and that its bestowment has in view the service of God. That when his kingdom comes, "under the whole heaven," then these immortalized ones shall do his will and find highest joy in so doing. Rightly understood, this doctrine will satisfy every legitimate aspiration for a happy future, and this no other teaching can do.

SEVEN WAYS OF GIVING.

First, the careless way. To give something to every cause that is presented without inquiring into its merits.

Second, the impulsive way. To give from impulse—as much and as often as love and piety and sensibility prompt.

Third, the lazy way. To make a special offer to earn money for benevolent objects by fairs, festivals, etc.

Fourth, the self-denying way. To save the cost of luxuries and apply them to purposes of religion and charity. This may lead to asceticism and self-complacence.

Fifth, the systematic way. To lay aside as an offering to God a definite portion of our gains—one tenth, one fifth, one third, or one half. This is adapted to all, whether rich or poor, and gifts would be largely increased if it were generally practiced.

Sixth, the equal way. To give to God and the needy as much as we spend on ourselves, balancing our personal expenditures by our gifts.

Seventh, the heroic way. To limit our own expenditures to a certain sum, and give away all the rest of our income. This was John Wesley's way.—*Dr. A. T. Pier-son*.

A CORRECTION.

MR. EDITOR:—In your issue of October 15th, in "Sunday Afternoon" column, you publish an article severely reflecting on the people of the village of Liberal, Mo.

I was in business in Liberal from December, 1884, until March, 1889, and can truthfully say that for morality, sobriety, integrity, etc., the inhabitants of Liberal were above the average of any village of its size that I ever lived in. They are now and have been, as long as I knew them, as

peaceable and law-abiding people as can be found anywhere in this state.

I am now forty-eight years old. Have done business (merchandise) in Iowa, Illinois and Dakota, and never felt more secure in person and property anywhere than in the much-maligned and godless village of Liberal. Your informant was either misled by false reports or unduly prejudiced and reckless in his statements, or he would never have given you such a report.

From what I could learn, it appeared that considerable animosity and ill-feeling prevailed between Christians and infidels for a few years, but it never rose to a point of violence or personal injury to any one. They now have churches and Sabbath-schools, and the Spiritualists have a hall or meeting-house in which they meet every Sunday for religious edification, after their peculiar manner, and all are at liberty to worship "according to the dictates of their own conscience."

I trust that, for the sake of truth and justice, and in justice to a much-defamed community of law-abiding citizens, you will correct the false impression produced on those not informed of the true state of affairs, by your late article, headed, "A community without a Bible."

PETER HARTMAN.

CHRIST'S RELIGION A FORCE.

Christianity has often been misrepresented as a principle of tears, and mildness and fastidiousness; afraid of crossing people's prejudices; afraid of making somebody mad; with silken gloves lifting the people up from the church pew into glory, as though they were Bohemian glass, so very delicate that with one touch it may be demolished forever! Men speak of religion as though it were a refined imbecility; as though it were a spiritual chloroform that the people were to take until the sharp cutting of life were over.

The Bible, so far from this, represents the religion of Christ as robust and brawny—ransacking and upsetting ten thousand things that seem to be settled on firm foundations. I hear some man say, "I thought religion was peace." That is the final result. A man's arm is out of place. Two men come and with great effort put it back to the socket. It goes back with great pain. Then it gets well. Our world is horribly disordered and out of joint. It must come under an omnipotent surgery, beneath which there will be pain and anguish before there can come perfect health and quiet.

STEPS IN COMING TO CHRIST.

1. Feel your need of Christ.
2. Be sick of your sins enough to give them up.
3. Determine to enter upon a life of obedience and service to God by his assisting grace.
4. Confess your sins to God and pray for pardon in Jesus' name.
5. Believe that God receives you because he says so in his word.
6. Be found in all the ways of a godly life.

W. A. PECK.

MR. GLADSTONE FORGETS

his political perplexities long enough to write for *The Youth's Companion*. Next year he will describe a young inventor of rare gifts and lofty character. *The Companion* is the only American weekly for which Mr. Gladstone writes.

DONALD KENNEDY

Of Roxbury, Mass., Says:

Strange cases cured by my **Medical Discovery** come to me every day. Here is one of Paralysis—Blindness—and the Grip. Now how does my **Medical Discovery** cure all these? I don't know, unless it takes hold of the Hidden Poison that makes all Humors.

VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA, Sept. 9th, 1891.

Donald Kennedy—Dear Sir: I will state my case to you: About nine years ago I was paralyzed in my left side, and the best doctors gave me no relief for two years, and I was advised to try your **Discovery**, which did its duty, and in a few months I was restored to health. About four years ago I became blind in my left eye by a spotted cataract. Last March I was taken with La Grippe, and was confined to my bed for three months. At the end of that time, as in the start, then it struck me that your **Discovery** was the thing for me; so I got a bottle, and before it was half gone I was able to go to my work in the mines. Now in regard to my eyes, as I lost my left eye, and about six months ago my right eye became affected with black spots over the sight as did the left eye—perhaps some twenty of them—but since I have been using your **Discovery** they all left my right eye but one; and, thank God, the bright light of heaven is once more making its appearance in my left eye. I am wonderfully astonished at it, and thank God and your **Medical Discovery**. Yours truly, HANK WHITE.

Many a life has been lost because of the taste of cod-liver oil.

If Scott's Emulsion did nothing more than take that taste away, it would save the lives of some at least of those that put off too long the means of recovery.

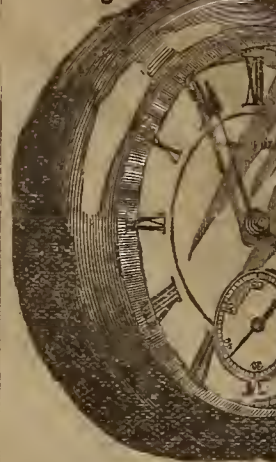
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W. G. M.

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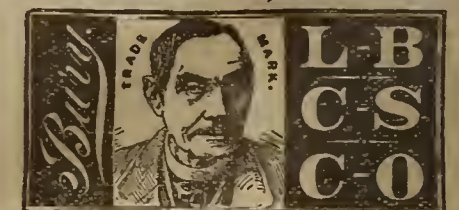
is not easily earned in these times, but it can be made by any one of either sex in any part of the country, who is willing to work industriously at the employment which we furnish. The labor is light and pleasant, and you run no risk whatever. We start you. You can give the business a trial without expense to yourself. THE BEST OPPORTUNITY EVER OFFERED FOR THOSE WILLING TO WORK. Women make as much as men. Send for special private terms and particulars which we mail free.

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Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

FEEDING HENS ON THE FARM.

It costs the farmer less to produce eggs than it does one living on the suburbs of a town or village, as the hen on the farm can pick up about one third of her food. A bushel of wheat or corn for a year should be sufficient, provided she has opportunities for securing grass, insects, etc. She will lay, under fair conditions, ten dozen eggs a year. As to how much profit to expect, it will depend on the cost of the wheat and the price of the eggs. The bushel of wheat will cost the eastern farmer about one dollar, but in some portions of the West the cost may not be over fifty cents. At the same prices for eggs the western farmer has the advantage of cheaper cost, but as the eastern farmer has the advantage of prices, his opportunities are better.

Each section possesses advantages and disadvantages, and when the farmer sells his eggs he should be prepared to know exactly how much expense was incurred. If eggs sell for only ten cents a dozen, when wheat is fifty cents a bushel, he secures a higher price for his wheat by converting the wheat into eggs through the agency of the hens. Eggs have the advantage of calling for cash in the markets, and they can be produced in the winter season, giving immediate returns, which is very different from being compelled to wait from one season to the next.

Feeding the hens on the farm is to take possession of the waste places with the hen. There is food to be secured that is not in the grain-bin. Every clod turned over by the plow affords a little, and the young grass and weeds, the seeds of grass, the rakings of the farm, the scattered grain of the barn-yard, the stubble in the fields, the scraps from the table, and the manure heap, all afford the hens privileges, and the eggs laid by them during the summer season cost the farmer little or nothing. The low cost of summer should be considered and the average made.

WIRE FENCES TO YARDS.

The wire fence does not keep the winds out of the yards. When such a fence is made, the lower part should be of boards, and they should be put together so as to be close. A fence seven feet high, composed of three feet of boards and four feet of wire, should be high enough to keep nearly all breeds of hens within bounds, and the boards will make the yards much warmer and more comfortable than when only wire is used. It is an advantage for the hens to be outside sometimes, for they cannot be content to remain in on clear days; but to send them outside on a cold, windy day, with the yards enclosed only with wire, is to expose them to a very severe test.

All yards should have wind-breaks of some kind if the hens are to occupy them, and this can be accomplished in several ways; one by having boards at the bottom, and another by arranging corn stalks on the north and west sides of the fence. Anything that will break the force of the wind will be found beneficial.

HAY SEEDS FOR CHICKS.

When you have a brood of chicks, try giving them the sweepings of the hay in which to scratch, and you will be surprised to notice how busy the little fellows will be, and how industriously they will work to secure the seeds. There is nothing that will tempt little chicks like small seeds, and they will scratch from morning until night if they can find them. This scratching will do more to keep them in health than anything that can be done for them. It makes them keep warm, compels them to feed without filling their crops too rapidly, prevents leg weakness, and assists them to endure cold. Their appetites will also be greater and they will eat anything else provided, with avidity. If chicks are fed four times a day when young, and given hay chaff and leaves to work in, they should grow rapidly. They must be kept in a warm place, having plenty of light, and carefully fastened up at night.

UTILIZING SPACE.

Space costs something. That is, space on the roost, space on the floor and space in the yards. The best way to cheapen the cost of space is to occupy it. Two large hens on the roost will take the space that three small ones could occupy, and as a small hen will lay as many eggs as a large hen, there is a gain of fifty per cent in having the roost occupied by the right breed.

It is a waste of space to build a poultry-house with a large amount of the cost in the roof when the floor is most important, and it is a loss of space to have the nests, troughs and water-fountains sitting in the middle of the floor that the hens require on which to scratch. It is cheaper to build a square poultry-house than to adopt any other plan, because more space can then be enclosed within the walls, and it is often the case that one third of the space in a poultry-house is taken up by alleyways that could be dispensed with. Space costs money, and to waste it is as extravagant as to waste food.

AGES FOR MATING FOWLS.

A cock over the age of two years will not prove as serviceable as one a year old. While pullets may be very young for breeding purposes, provided they are mated with a fully-matured male, the use of pullets and cockerels together that are young should be avoided. It is better to use eggs for incubation that are laid by hens over fifteen months old; but if pullets are used, the cock should be well on in his second year.

In all experiments made by us we have found that eggs from pullets will hatch as well as those from hens, but the chicks from the hens' eggs are stronger and more vigorous. Much depends on the male, however, for his influence is great and the chicks will largely inherit his characteristics.

There is a tendency to market the old hens and retain the pullets. We do not approve of the system. Unless a hen is quite aged, she will always produce strong chicks, whether she lays many eggs or not.

SCARCITY OF EGGS.

During November there was such a scarcity of eggs in some of the eastern cities that many families could not be supplied, and this scarcity was as great in the small country towns as in the cities. In one town, where incubation by artificial methods is quite a leading industry, the operators could not procure eggs for hatching in sufficient numbers. As there is no scarcity of grain, and eggs are in demand, it looks as though the farmer might give more attention to his hens, instead of turning them over to his wife, for she always finds plenty of work to do in the house, while he can devote his time profitably with a large flock of hens.

It does not take a year for the hen to give a profit. She begins at once and turns in her product daily, being the only source from which cash is received at this season. The great demand for eggs should stimulate the poultry interests on the farm, especially as a winter industry.

A DREADED DISEASE.

Among the diseases described that come to us from readers, is one which is very common. The heads of the hens swell, and lumps appear, both on the heads and sometimes in the throats, and the eyes are also swollen and closed. The trouble is roup, and the symptoms described are due to exposure to draughts of cold or damp air at night. There are different kinds of roup, but the form of roup mentioned is always the result of exposure. It is difficult to cure, but the sick birds should be kept in a warm place, and a few drops of a mixture of one part spirits of turpentine and three parts sweet-oil used as an ointment on the face and head.

ROOM FOR ALL.

If you have pure-bred fowls, advertise them. The breeding of pure-bred stock does not belong to a few select parties, but to all, and there is no reason why one who has gone to the expense of securing a choice breed should not be interested in selling to others. To do this one must let buyers know where to buy. But few persons depend on the neighborhood in which they reside to sell pure-bred stock, for such a field would be too limited. It is making known to the whole country that buyers are found. We mention this

fact because we receive many inquiries asking where to procure certain breeds of fowls.

COMBS OF LEGHORNS.

During frequent winds on very cold days, the combs of Leghorns are liable to become frozen, which destroys their usefulness, as the frosted portion is as painful to the bird as a frosted member of the body is to a human being. During the day the best protection is a wind-break, or some shelter, and at night there must be no air-holes or cracks to let in a stream of cold air on the heads of the birds when on the roost.

LIME FOR THE SHELLS.

The best form for providing lime is with bones. The bones are digestible when they are fresh from the butcher, as they are then not so dry and hard. Another source of lime is clover, which contains twenty-five times as much as corn or

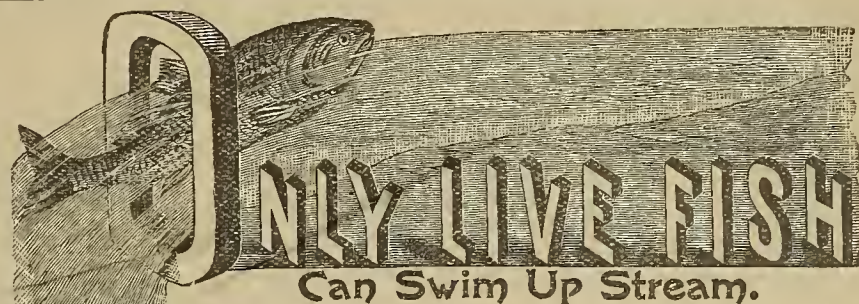
wheat. When endeavoring to provide lime, however, do not overlook the fact that all foods contain lime in some form. The most important foods are those that are nitrogenous.

DAMP FLOORS.

If the floor is well covered with leaves the dampness will be absorbed. Dry floors make the poultry-house more comfortable. In the case of ducks, the dry floor is very important, as they are soon injured by floors that are cold and damp and become lame. It will cost but a trifle to have a dry floor.

WOODEN TROUGH.

If the weather becomes cold, the use of earthenware fountains will be impracticable. The best substitute is a wooden trough, which will not be easily affected by frost. The water in a trough can be thawed out with but little difficulty, and a trough is also easily cleaned.



Success always lies up stream, and it requires will and muscle to get there. Many almost succeed, reach for the prize they would hang on to, and find they have no strength left to hang on with. They have enough grit, but not enough grip. To such men and women Drs. Starkey & Palen's COMPOUND OXYGEN supplies the needed power. Like sand under the locomotive wheel, it makes effort effectual. Success is too dear at the price of starved lungs, worn out nerves, impaired digestion. It's good to gain a prize. It's better still to be able to enjoy it.

COMPOUND OXYGEN has back of it the accumulated success of twenty-two years. The theory is that the air on which we live, when enriched and magnetized, will make the system stronger. It's as capable of proof as is the multiplication table. Send for our book of particulars. Do so to-day. It costs only the asking.

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Royal Crimson Silk Velvet Plush Smokers' Companion. It is 12 in. long, 8 in. wide, 2 in. thick; the inside is decorated in a most artistic manner with lovely blue silk and contains one genuine chip microchaum pipe, the bowl being made of the best of genuine microchaum. A magnificent pipe, having a patent stem and genuine amber mouthpiece, with silver plated mounting, can be taken apart to clean, and is never sold by tobacco stores for less than two dollars. Also contains a clear glass holder made of genuine microchaum with genuine amber mouthpiece that is well worth half a dollar. The case on the outside is covered with genuine crimson silk velvet plush; each case has been retailed for as much as \$10. To introduce we will send you our royal crimson silk velvet plush smokers' companion for only 98c. Charges all prepaid and satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. This offer is made only to those who will endeavor to introduce our goods, otherwise we charge \$3. Send 98c and this advt. to **WM. WILLIAMS, 126 S. Halsted St. Chicago, Ill.** Mention this paper when you write.

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Plants Wanted.—J. T. M. Leech's Corners, Pa. For plants and seeds send to the nurserymen and seed dealers who advertise in our columns. All publish descriptive catalogues or price lists that can be obtained on application.

To Purify Cistern Water.—F. J. K. Davenport, Iowa, writes: "During what months of the year should rain-water be gathered in cisterns in order to avoid the objectionable odor which it often acquires?"

REPLY:—We are not sure that it can be prevented in that way at all. First, do not let the first water from the roof in each rain into the cistern; turn the roof-washings aside. Then, when the cistern water becomes the least foul, pour into it a pound or two of concentrated lye dissolved in warm water, and stir the water in the cistern thoroughly.

Sweet Potatoes in Silo—Cooked Food for Hogs.—H. L. Lebanon, Pa., writes: "Will sweet potatoes, cut fine in a root-cutter and the vines cut short, put up together in a silo in the best manner, be preserved the same as green corn until summer, to be fed to hogs? Will carrots siloed in the same way do as well?—Will potatoes or carrots, steamed and fed with meal, put on pork as fast as corn in the usual way?"

REPLY:—We have not read of any experiments in that line. The roots can be preserved in a silo just as well as green corn, but we would prefer to preserve roots whole in a regular root-house.—Cooked potatoes and meal will make pork faster than corn fed in the usual way, but the question of the profit of cooking feed for hogs has not yet been decided in favor of cooking.

Fertilizer Queries.—J. A. N. Stroudsburg, Pa., asks: "Where can dried blood, tankage and dried fish be bought except of fertilizer manufacturers? What are dry tan ashes worth per load of about forty bushels? Is available phosphoric acid from South Carolina rock as good as that derived from bone? Is apple pomace of any value as a fertilizer?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—I see no way for you to buy tankage, dried blood, etc., except from fertilizer dealers. Write to W. S. Powell & Co., Baltimore, Md., for prices. Tan ashes are worth less than leached wood ashes, and probably not over \$3 or \$4 per ton. Available phosphoric acid has the same fertilizing value, whether derived from one source or another. It is available, and that is all we can expect from it. Apple pomace has but a slight value as manure, and as its use involves some danger by acid fermentation, I would prefer, if I were to use it, to mix it with loose manure, muck, lime, etc., and let it get well rotted before using it.

What Crop Most Profitable?—Mrs. J. D. B., Slate Mills, Va., asks: "Which is the most profitable of the following crops: Onions, or onion sets, castor beans or hops? Would flax do well here? If so, would it be profitable? Which crop would you advise to plant to get the most money?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—This is a hard nut to crack. It seems to me, each person should be able to tell for what particular crop his soil, locality, markets, and even individual strength are best suited. If you have soil that will produce fine crops of onions, and you have learned how to raise and sell them, this probably would be the crop giving you the best returns. But don't undertake onion growing on a large scale without a great deal of personal experience. It would not be advisable to dabble in such crops as hops, flax, etc., for profit. The former has ruined more people than it has made rich; and for the latter (flax culture) the prospects are not bright. Castor beans are grown in some states with profit, and your location is probably all right for it, if you have a market for the crop.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers, Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should enclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 35 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

A Damaged Heifer.—J. F. L. writes about a heifer being damaged at calving. About next spring you will succeed in stopping the flow of milk; until then keep up the milking, and if you then conclude to fatten your cow, you may have her served and then turn her out into a good, rich pasture. By fall she will make good beef. Of course, when ready for the butcher she must not be more than about four months gone.

Hard Milker.—G. A. H., Paulding, Ohio, writes: "Please give information if anything can be done to make a cow an easier milker."

ANSWER:—Milking will become easier if a cow is always milked by a good, thorough milker, who understands the business and means business. On the other hand it will become more and more difficult if the milking is always performed in a lackadaisical manner; that is, by an indifferent milker who doesn't know how to do it, and milks with insufficient force.

Wounded in a Wire Fence.—H. M., Utah, writes: "I have a horse, five years old, that laid down by a wire fence last June, and rolled over, getting his legs entangled in the bars, then kicking and cutting what I think was an artery, between the fetlock-joint and the hoof, a little to the right of the center, behind. The cut was three-fourths of an inch deep by about one inch long. It healed up; but it seemed to itch so that he bites it sometimes and causes it to bleed and scab over. It is also badly swollen yet, and he is somewhat lame. What can I do to heal it up and take down the swelling?"

ANSWER:—Keep the wounds or sores scrupulously clean, dress them twice a day with iodine, and keep the injured leg bandaged. Invariably commence bandaging at the hoof, and see to it that the bandage is put on as smoothly and as uniformly as possible. In such a case as yours it is always best to have the animal treated by a competent veterinarian, but I suppose good veterinarians are as yet rather scarce in Utah.

Wind-galls.—G. G. T., Lynchburg, Va., writes: "We have a mare eight years old that has large wind-galls on both hind legs, on the outside of the knees. They seem to have a soft gristle in them. The mare is in good order and is not lame."

ANSWER:—Since your mare is not lame, it probably will be best to leave the wind-galls alone. Situated on the hind knees, the same, at any rate, do not easily yield to treatment.

A Paralytic Dog.—W. C. F., San Francisco, Cal., writes: "Will you please inform me what ails my dog and what I can do for him? He is about ten or twelve years old. He seems to have, at times, no power of his hind parts, and the hind legs are very unsteady and sometimes they give way under him, and while going up-stairs he will drag them after him by the power of his front legs, and in going down he will tumble down. At times there is some pain, as he cries and whines in getting up or lying down."

ANSWER:—Your dog suffers from partial paralysis in the hind quarters. I am afraid the case is an incurable one.

Swelled Legs.—J. D. H., Vriesland, Mich., and H. S., Saliue City, Ind., write about horses with swelled legs.

ANSWER:—Give the swelling legs, every morning and evening, a good rubbing, either with a woolen rag or with a wisp of straw or hay, so as to get them thoroughly clean, especially below the pastern-joint, and, at the same time, to excite the skin to greater activity; then give exercise during the day, and for the night put on a bandage of woolen flannel. Invariably commence bandaging at the hoof. Continue this treatment until the legs cease to swell.

Thumps in Horses.—M. B., Olalla, Oregon, writes: "I write to ask if there is any such complaint as thumps in horses, and if there is any cure for it."

ANSWER:—There is such a disease, in which a thumping, synchronous with the beat of the heart, can be felt all over the body, particularly in the hind quarters. Its nature is not yet fully understood. A good physic and a few days of strict rest usually removes it. As a physic, one or two pills, composed of one ounce of Barbados aloes, half an ounce of powdered marsh-mallow root and a little water, will answer the purpose.

Prolapsus of the Vagina.—G. H., Poestenkill, N. Y., writes: "I have a heifer two years old. She dropped her calf last March, and partly cast her wethers. Since that time they have been in sight several times, usually after she has been in heat. They go back of their own accord. What can I do for her? Would it be possible to get her with calf again?"

ANSWER:—What you describe is simply a prolapsus of the vagina. It does not necessarily disqualify the animal for breeding. Only you have to see to it that she stands in her stall not any lower with the hind feet than with the fore feet, and at the time of calving she needs close watching.

Wolf-teeth.—J. T. A., Rankin, Ill., writes: "Do colts have any such thing as blind or wolf teeth that affects the eyes? If so, what is the remedy?"

ANSWER:—So-called wolf-teeth are either small supernumerary teeth in front of the molars, or, what is more frequent, are unabsorbed remnants of milk molars in front of the first permanent molars. The latter is the case, especially in colts, the development and growth of which has suffered some interruption. So-called wolf-teeth have no connection with and no influence upon the eyes. They are innocent. If one objects to their presence, he may pull them out, if he can. As a rule, they will break if one attempts to pull them.

A Diseased Mule Colt.—J. B. R., Smithville, Ark., writes: "I have a yearling mule colt that has been diseased ever since it was foaled. Its mother had the button farcy. It seems to be paralyzed on one side, walks stiff or one-sided, eats heartily and looks very well now, but had been badly treated before I got it. Its skin seems to be very thick, but the hair seems to be all right."

ANSWER:—If the mare really had "button farcy," that is, external glanders, the colt surely is affected with the same disease, and should at once be destroyed. Still, as your description does not give any symptoms characteristic of that disease, I can only advise you to have the mule colt examined by some competent person—one who is familiar with glanders and farcy—or else inform your state authorities.

Warts.—J. K., Cleveland, Tenn., writes: "Will you please tell me how best to cure or take warts from a yearling colt's ear? A wart formed on inside near point of ear, which I cut off with a silk thread. It bled some, and now, about two months later, it fled numerous warts covering an inch in diameter just where the first had been. I am afraid if they are not removed they may spread and cause a serious blemish."

ANSWER:—Prepare a concentrated solution of corrosive sublimate in very strong (either absolute or nearly so) alcohol. Then carefully paint the warts by means of a camel's-hair pencil with this solution until the same are coated with a finely distributed white layer of corrosive sublimate. Repeat this every day until the warts begin to shrink, but be careful to bring the solution in contact only with the warts, and don't let it run down into the ear.

Deformed Stifle-joints.—Mrs. C. A. M., Darwin, Ill., writes: "I have a colt foaled in May, 1891. When foaled it had a soft lump on the front of each stifle-joint. As it matured, those lumps got larger and remained soft till last month, when they became hard. The colt is quite stiff, and appears to be in misery. It can hardly get up when it lies down."

ANSWER:—The deformation in the stifle or knee joints of your colt is probably due to arthritis, which affected the animal when quite young. It will be difficult to effect much improvement. A treatment, necessarily, will depend upon the nature and extent of the deformation, a possible anchylosis of the patella with the femur, etc. A counter-irritant, oil of caustic, for instance, may be applied, but it is doubtful whether much good will result. It would be best to first ascertain the exact condition of the joints by a thorough examination before any treatment is applied.

Thick-winded—A Bone Fistula.—J. S. R., Maysville, W. Va., writes: "I have a horse that had distemper a year ago, and when well of distemper was left a little thick-winded. Can you tell me what I can do for him?—I also have a horse that has bone fistula, or I think it is. He has had it all summer. Can it be cured?"

ANSWER:—If your horse is a roarer, and is not so bad as to be disqualified for work, you had better leave the case alone. Roaring, in a majority of cases, can only be cured by a surgical operation, which is not easily performed and not always crowned with success. Fistulas can be cured, but as you fail to state where the fistula is, on what part of the body—fistulas may occur on almost any part of the body—and as it is not very clear what you mean by a "bone fistula," I cannot give you any directions. Employ a veterinarian.

Cow Did Not Clean.—G. R., Medina, Ohio, writes: "One of my Alderney cows, six weeks ago, gave birth to her fourth calf. It was three weeks premature and the calf came dead. The cow did not clean for six days, when by giving it the slightest pull I freed her. She has ever since been having a very offensive discharge and it does not seem to be getting any less. She is giving a good flow of milk and eats well and is in fairly good condition."

ANSWER:—First inject into the womb carefully some clean, warm water (about 95° to 100° Fahr.), and then, after the womb has thus been cleansed, inject about a quart of a solution of corrosive sublimate, 1 part of the latter to 1,500 parts of water, also of a temperature of 100° Fahr. In dissolving and injecting the corrosive sublimate, it is best to avoid a vessel and syringe made of tin. A clean, china wash-bowl for dissolving, and a rubber syringe for injecting are the best. The trouble is you tore the afterbirth, and a portion, which is now decomposing, remained behind. A retention of the afterbirth is a frequent occurrence if the birth of the calf is a premature one.

A Diseased Colt—A Collar-boil.—W. W. C., Eylar, Ill., writes: "I have a colt that had the distemper very bad some six weeks ago, and the colt finally got so weak that it could not get up without help. I have had to raise it for a month. It seems to be weak in the hind parts. After it is up, it will trot off all right. It eats well, and is apparently all right after it is up. There are quite a number of colts that are affected the same way in the neighborhood. What treatment would you pursue?—I have another colt that has a large, hard lump on the shoulder, made by the collar; it is not sore. What course would you pursue to remove it?"

ANSWER:—Concerning your first colt that had distemper, the treatment will depend entirely upon the nature and the seat of the paralytic affection. It may be that time, good care and nutritious food will effect an improvement or even a cure.—A collar-boil can be removed only by a surgical operation. Hence, it may be best to employ a veterinarian to treat both cases.

Bad Hoof.—T. G., Traverse City, Mich., writes: "I have a horse that is lame in his front feet. When he starts up in the morning or at noon he is stiff. After he goes awhile he seems better. He will start with his feet close together in the barn. His feet are hard. He will hold one foot up at a time and let it rest on the toe. He likes to stand with his toes downward. When he turns around he seems to hop. There seems to be no fever in his feet. He is slightly shrunken in the shoulders and has been a little lame off and on for a year. He has a splint on one of his legs. I do not let the shoes remain on more than a month at a time. His legs are clear and I can find no swelling or bluishness on his feet. When trotted on a hard road he seems worse."

ANSWER:—According to your description your horse either suffers from navicular disease, or has badly contracted hoofs. The former, particularly, is incurable, and contraction of the hoofs is usually best removed by keeping the animal on a farm and letting the same go barefooted. Something may also be accomplished by artificial means, but to give a detailed description would occupy too much space. Therefore, if you cannot follow my advice, consult a first-class horse-shoer. Inveterate corns, possibly, also may cause lameness similar to that described by you.

May be Spavin.—K. C., Cheviot, Ohio, writes: "I have a colt five years old. About two years ago she became lame from some cause. I could not tell where she was lame. In a few weeks she seemed all right. Nearly six months ago her left hip commenced shrinking. The top bone sticks up and seems partly dead. She seems to lose the use of her leg when driven, or after standing in the stable. Just until she takes a few steps, then she will drive all day without showing any lameness. Can there be anything done for it, and would it be safe to raise colts from her?"

ANSWER:—Your description of the lameness, meagre as it is, points towards spavin. The shrinking of the large muscles and the thus increasing prominence of the hips (external angle of the ilium) is due to the protracted lameness which causes the muscles to be more or less inactive and therefore shrinking. Subject the animal to the so-called spavin test. Take the mare out of the stable, put a man at the head holding the bridle and prepared to run on a trot with the horse as soon as the word to do so is given. Let another man hold up the foot of the lame leg in such a way that all the joints are flexed to the utmost, and so as to bring the foot as near as possible to the lower surface of the horse's abdomen. Doing this the man has to stand a little sideways of the horse and look backward. After the lame leg has then been held for a few minutes, you, standing behind the horse, give the word to go; at the same time you touch the animal with the whip, and the man who holds the foot, at the same moment has to let go and step sideways, and the man who holds the bridle goes off with the horse at a smart trot. If the horse has spavin, the first two or three steps will be made on three legs. For further information consult FARM AND FIRESIDE, of November 15.

Hydremia.—A. S., Senecaville, Ohio, writes: "Please give your opinion as to the ailment of my lambs. They are of merino and Shropshire cross, eat very heartily up to a day or two of death, when they begin to droop and then die. Before death, there seems to be an accumulation of matter, not unlike synovial fluid, found under the chiu, brisket around the anus and on the legs, and in the ewes a very great amount around the udder. The skin seems very thin and is very easily torn. Internally, the lungs and heart seem all right, except pericardial fluid slightly murky, liver with light spots, several hours after about the size of a half dollar, or smaller; but, perhaps, from putrefaction, the kidneys apparently are all right, intestines healthy, but surrounded by about one quart of fluid of a decidedly turbid character. The matter has a very offensive smell, before and after death, when an incision is made. Is it paper-skin? I know nothing of the disease and did not raise the lambs, but bought them some distance from home. They were slightly run down, but otherwise all right, apparently, until brought home."

ANSWER:—The immediate cause of the death of your lambs is hydremia, an abnormal condition of the blood, in which the latter contains too much water and an insufficient quantity of solid constituents. This condition, very likely, was brought about by some worm disease. If you make another post-mortem examination, examine the lungs

intestines and particularly the liver, not by looking at these organs from the outside, but by cutting them open, the lungs and intestines with scissors and the liver with a knife. Examine the lungs clear to the ends of bronchial tubes, and in the liver open the bile ducts, and undoubtedly you will find the cause. I rather suspect you will find liver worms in the liver, and, moreover, in the gall bladder. Next spring and summer, keep your lambs away from low and wet ground, and from any pool of stagnant water, if you do not desire to be troubled again.

Recent Publications.

EXPERIMENT STATION BULLETINS.

Sent free, on application, to residents of the state in which the station is located. Address: Agricultural Experiment Station.

ARKANSAS.—(Fayetteville Bulletin No. 1, July, 1891. Nature and treatment of ringworm in young cattle.

COLORADO.—(Fort Collins Bulletin No. 1, July, 1891. The artesian wells of Colorado and their relation to irrigation.

FLORIDA.—(Lake City Bulletin No. 14, July 1, 1891. Annual report.

KANSAS.—(Manhattan Bulletin No. 21, September, 1891. Enzootic cerebritis, or "staggers" of horses.

LOUISIANA.—(Sugar Station, Audubon Park, New Orleans) Report of the sugar house and laboratory for 1890.

MICHIGAN.—(Agricultural College Bulletin No. 7, November, 1891. Comparing the yield of old meadows with those recently mowed.

MINNESOTA.—(St. Anthony Park) Prospects of dairy school and school of agriculture.

NEW YORK.—(Cornell Station, Ithaca, Bulletin No. 32, October, 1891. Notes on tomatoes.

OHIO.—(Columbus) Bulletin No. 6, Vol. IX, October, 1891. Experiments with small fruits in 1891. Diseases of the raspberry and blackberry. Bulletin No. 7, Vol. IX, November, 1891. The Hessian fly.

ONTARIO.—(Concession Station, Guelph) Bulletin No. 48. Feeding shorn and unshorn lambs in winter. Bulletin No. 49. Fattening lambs for the British market.

OREGON.—(Corvallis) Bulletin No. 12. Comparative test of strawberries and blackberries. Bulletin No. 13. Mineral and mineral-water analyses for soils and agricultural survey.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—(Fort Mifflin) Bulletin No. 2, July, 1891. Cotton experiments with varieties and with fertilizers.

VERMONT.—(Burlington) Progress of dairy school.

WISCONSIN.—(Madison) Bulletin No. 29, October, 1891. Creaming experiments.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—(Washington, D. C.) Report of the secretary of agriculture for 1891. Special report of the chief of the weather bureau to the secretary of agriculture, 1891. The Cassin, the aboriginal North American, its history, distribution and use among the native North American Indians. Department Station Record, Vol. III, No. 3, October, 1891. Report on yield of crops per acre, November, 1891.

SARATOGA ASSOCIATION.

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